

Discipleship Explored

Session 6: Transformed in Christ

By Barry Cooper

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Recap

Session 1 - Confident in Christ	David Pond
Session 2 - Living in Christ	George Murphy
Session 3 - One in Christ	Carl Madsen
Session 4 - Obedient in Christ	Steve (gyro) Jaros
Session 5 - Righteous in Christ	Michael St. Clair

Set Apart, Your Role as a Disciple

Key Scripture

Matthew 28:18-20 ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Session 6 Key Scripture

Philippians 3:10-21 ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵ All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. ¹⁶ Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

¹⁷ Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.

¹⁸ For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

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KNOW and
BE LIKE CHRIST

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FOLLOW MODELS

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TRANSFORM



To Transform: to make a thorough or dramatic change in the form, appearance, or character of.



Discussion Question:

How do you strive on a daily basis to become more like Christ?



Points from the Video



- Jesus is more valuable to Paul than anything (Philippians 3:10-11)
- One of the ways we can become more like Christ is by imitating godly believers (Philippians 3:17)
- Another way in which we become more like Christ is through suffering (Philippians 3:10)
- Christ will one day return, and on that day he “will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body” (Philippians 3:21)
- Paul’s picture of discipleship is not passive but active. We’re to be like an athlete running a race, “forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead” (Philippians 3:13).
- Sometimes regrets over “what is behind” can hold us back – and Paul had many reasons to regret his past. But believers can forget what is behind because we know that we are forgiven, and everything in our past is ultimately intended by God to make us more like Christ.
- Let’s read Philippians 3:10-21.

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Final Discussion Points

1. What's the one thing Paul does (according to verses 13-14), and why does he do it?
2. What are Paul's "goal" and "prize"? (See verses 10-11.)
3. Some might say that Christianity is just about avoiding hell and going to heaven. Given verses 10-14, what do you think Paul would say to that?
4. In verses 18-19, Paul writes "with tears" about enemies of Christ. As well as the more obvious "enemies," this group can include those who claim to be Christian teachers but are not. How can we identify such people (see verses 18-19)?
5. What are the sharp contrasts between the enemies of Christ in verse 19 and the disciples of Christ in verses 20-21?
6. *This week, how can we "press on toward the goal" (verse 14) of knowing Christ and becoming more like him?*

Encouraging Your Development as a Disciple

Three Things

Commit ...

to Prayer

to Scripture

to People