

**Philippians 3:1-11**

|                            |               |   |
|----------------------------|---------------|---|
| v1 – rejoice               | (verb)        | express great joy or happiness  |
| v1 – safeguard             | (noun)        | a measure intended to prevent someone from being harmed   |
| v2 – mutilators            | (noun)        | someone who deliberately and severely damages the body of another person  |
| v2 – flesh                 | (noun)        | the physical body   |
| v3 – ‘the circumcision’    |               | Circumcision was practiced by God’s people, the Israelites, in the Old Testament to show that they belong to God. To be ‘the circumcision’ is to be the true people of God. |
| v3 – boast                 | (verb)        | speak proudly about your own achievements   |
| v3 – confidence            | (noun)        | feeling of certainty and security   |
| v5 – Israel                | (proper noun) | the nation who were God’s chosen people in Old Testament times.   |
| v5 – tribe of Benjamin     |               | a subgroup of people within the nation of Israel who are all descended from a common ancestor, Benjamin.  |
| v5 – Hebrew                | (proper noun) | someone from the nation of Israel   |
| v5 – ‘a Hebrew of Hebrews’ |               | a genuine Hebrew; someone whose parents are both Hebrews  |
| v5 – the law               | (noun)        | God’s law in the Old Testament  |
| v5 – Pharisee              | (proper noun) | a Jewish religious group who had many of their own rules that had to be followed in addition to God’s rules.  |
| v6 – zeal                  | (noun)        | eagerness and strong desire for God   |
| v6 – persecuting           | (verb)        | deliberately causing trouble for people because of their race or beliefs  |
| v6 – righteousness         | (noun)        | the quality of doing what is right  |
| v6 – faultless             | (adjective)   | perfect; without any mistakes   |
| v7 – ‘for the sake of’     |               | because of; on account of   |
| v8 – surpassing            | (adjective)   | exceptional; extraordinary  |
| v8 – worth                 | (noun)        | value   |
| v9 – faith                 | (noun)        | trust, dependence   |
| v10 – resurrection         | (noun)        | being raised to life again after you have died  |
| v11 – attaining            | (verb)        | gaining   |

**Philippians 3:1-11 (New International Reader’s Version)**

<sup>1</sup>Further, my brothers and sisters, be joyful because you belong to the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write about some important matters to you again. If you know about them, you will have a safe path to follow. <sup>2</sup>Watch out for those dogs. They are people who do evil things. When they circumcise, it is nothing more than a useless cutting of the body. <sup>3</sup>But we have been truly circumcised. We serve God by the power of his Spirit. We boast about what Christ Jesus has done. We don’t put our trust in who we are or what we can do. <sup>4</sup>I have many reasons to trust in who I am and what I have done. Someone else may think they have reasons to trust in these things. But I have even more.

<sup>5</sup>I was circumcised on the eighth day. I am part of the people of Israel. I am from the tribe of Benjamin. I am a pure Hebrew. As far as the law is concerned, I am a Pharisee. <sup>6</sup>As far as being committed is concerned, I opposed and attacked the church. As far as keeping the law is concerned, I kept it perfectly.

<sup>7</sup>I thought things like that were really something great. But now I consider them to be nothing because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>Even more, I consider everything to be nothing compared to knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. To know him is worth much more than anything else. Because of him I have lost everything. But I consider all of it to be garbage so I can know Christ better. <sup>9</sup>I want to be joined to him. Being right with God does not come from my obeying the law. It comes because I believe in Christ. It comes from God because of faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ better. Yes, I want to know the power that raised him from the dead. I want to join him in his sufferings. I want to become like him by sharing in his death. <sup>11</sup>Then by God’s grace I will rise from the dead.

**English Corner  
Sundays  
6:15-6:45pm  
in the Cottage**



Is English your second (or third or fourth...) language?  
**Come and join us at English Corner!**  
We will help you understand the Bible passage for that evening’s sermon.