

# **Rising Above: Insights From the Book of Philippians**

Week 5

“Will Grow Strangely Dim”

Philippians 3:1-11

## **OPEN WITH PRAYER**

**GETTING STARTED:** What accomplishment in your life are you most proud of?

## **LEARNING & APPLYING GOD’S WORD**

**Together, read** Philippians 3:1-14 **together**

1. Steve said in his sermon that the prevailing view of our culture is that meaning and purpose in life is found in achievement and all the things that come with that achievement, like money, influence, power and prestige. Do you agree or disagree with Steve’s statement? Why or why not? If this is not the prevailing view about what gives life meaning, what is?
2. What is the problem with looking to achievement and accomplishment to give meaning and purpose in life?
3. What did Jesus mean when he said “What good is it for you to gain the whole world, yet forfeit your soul?” (Mark 8:36)
4. Read Philippians 3:7-11. What were Paul’s “profit” and “loss”?
5. Read verse 9 together. What does Paul mean by this verse?

## **LIVING OUT “REAL LIFE”**

1. Does it seem realistic to you that Paul says all his achievements in life are garbage compared to knowing Christ and the grace of God? How do you see your accomplishments compared to knowing Christ? Do you see them as garbage?
2. What are some things that you “dumped in the trash” during worship on Sunday?

## **SHARING AND PRAYER (Prayer Requests)**

Take some time to share prayer requests, where you need to find God’s grace and peace. Be sure to give thanks for each other and pray for one another’s needs. When we pray together, we find the power of God.