

## Keys to knowing God from Philippians 4

Paul gave up everything to know the LORD. Things that he had gained, he walked away from them, just to know Christ Jesus. This was a huge sacrifice that we all need to make at some point in our lives. Sacrifice is a part of the Christian walk. We need to be willing to give up everything to get everything.

In comparison to knowing God, we need to count all things as loss for Christ (Philippians 3:7-12).

### Keys to knowing the LORD

*Philippians 3:7-11 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. 8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, 9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; 11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.*

*Philippians 3:12-14 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

#### 1. Count things that were a gain as loss.

One of the major keys to knowing God is a willingness to let go. Paul communicated this more over and again while speaking about the counting all things as loss.

a) Count **all** things as loss

b) Suffering loss. Do not just suffer loss

i) Suffer loss for something in return which is nothing other than for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my LORD.

c) Count all things as **dung**.

- d) Win Christ. When you lose all things, you win Christ.
2. Be found in Him - Don't be found in self or the world. If someone is looking for you, he should be able to find you in Him- If you are trusting in your own righteousness, you are not in Him nor will to be found in Him. To be found in Him, you need to receive His righteousness which is through faith.
  3. There is more to knowing God. It also includes the power of His resurrection fellowship of His sufferings; being made conformable unto His death.
  4. You have not attained/arrived.
    - a) If we want to know God, we need to live like we have not arrived. Acting like we have hinders God from flowing in our lives and we miss out on getting to know Him.
  5. Keep pressing on. There is a prize ahead of you. This prize is the High calling of God in Christ Jesus. High calling = Knowing God or intimacy with God. (1 Timothy 6:12)—High calling is a prize!

For one to get this prize, they have to be in Christ Jesus.