

LIVING WORSHIP

The Drive of Passion

Philippians 3:2-21

I. So, twelve weeks later: what are we **gunning** for? We want to...

- A. ...Get **stronger**!
- B. ...Take the **offensive**!
- C. ...**Impact** Greater Cleveland
- D. ...**Expand** the impact!

II. OK, first step: How do we get stronger?

- A. Find ourselves rooted in Christian Community that...
 - 1. ...is nourished by the **Word of God**.
 - 2. ...cultivates the **Inner-Life** with God.
 - 3. ...lives out the **Missional Life** of redemption through the cross.
- B. ...Which culminates in **Worshipping Jesus**!

III. The one thing that will truly drive us is a passion for Christ!!

- A. A passion for Christ is the **culmination** of Community, Word, Inner-Life and Mission!
 - Rooted in community → Philippians 1:27-2:4; 4:1-3

- Nourished by the Word → the whole letter to the Philippians; Philippians 2:10 (Isaiah 45:23); Philippians 3:2-3 (Jeremiah 9:23-26)
- Cultivating the Inner Life → Philippians 1:9-11; 2:3-11, 12-14; 4:6-13
- Living the Missional Life → Philippians 1:3-7, 12-20; 2:12-18; 4:2-3, 14-19

B. A passion for Christ is at the **center** of the letter to the Philippians!!

- Worshipping Jesus → Philippians 3:1-21

C. A passion for Christ turns our idea of **assets** and **liabilities** on their head!!

D. A passion for Christ is the path between **legalism** and **license**!!

Study Questions for December 6

1. Read Genesis 18:1-14. What is it about this birth that makes it unique? Who announces the birth? What will this continued lineage do in God's overall plan? Pay attention to the word "difficult" in 18:14. It also means "wonderful".
2. Read Judges 13:1-18. What is it about this birth that makes it unique? Who announces the birth? What will this child do for the people of God? What does the angel say in response to being asked his name (13:18)?
3. Read 1 Samuel 1:1-2:10. What is it that makes this birth unique? What will this child do for the people of God? What does Hannah's song convey? Pay attention to 2:10 and look up the word "anointed" (it is the first time this word is used in the Bible).
4. Read Isaiah 7:14; 9:1-7. What is it about this birth that makes it unique? What will this child do for the people of God? What curious word stands out to you in Isaiah 9:6 that you've seen twice already (hint, hint)?
5. What themes do you see being woven throughout God's storyline? How does this change or enhance your perspective on Christmas?