

# JOY

## Safeguarding Your Faith

July 7-8, 2012

O clap your hands, all peoples; Shout to God with the voice of joy. **Psalm 47:1**

Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things again is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you. **Philippians 3:1**

### Three Safeguards

#### 1. We must \_\_\_\_\_ legalism.

Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision. **Philippians 3:2**

For we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh, although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more...

**Philippians 3:3-4**

If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee.

**Philippians 3:4b-5**

#### 2. We must consistently \_\_\_\_\_ our life on Christ.

But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ. **Philippians 3:7-8**

And may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith.

**Philippians 3:9**

That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

**Philippians 3:10-11**

#### 3. We must \_\_\_\_\_ complacency.

Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 3:12**

Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 3:13**

### Personalize Scripture

Reread Philippians 3 this week.

Below are the readings and some reflection questions or action ideas.

- **Monday:** Philippians 3:1  
How is your joy?
- **Tuesday:** Philippians 3:2-6  
Are there spiritual practices in your life that have become a ritual? Do you need to refocus?
- **Wednesday:** Philippians 3:7-11  
Talk with someone about the joy of your salvation and where it comes from.
- **Thursday:** Philippians 3:12-14  
How are you moving closer to Christ?
- **Friday:** Philippians 3:15-19  
Pray for someone you know who needs Jesus. Ask God to use you to show them Jesus in your words and actions.
- **Saturday:** Philippians 3:20-21  
What does it mean to you that your citizenship is in heaven?