“I WANT TO KNOW CHRIST”

(What is my master passion and life goal and how will I attain?)

Philippians 3:1-21

Key Verse: 3:10

1. In what respect is rejoicing in the Lord a safeguard in relation to legalism (1)? What warning did Paul give (2)? How did Paul contrast true circumcision with legalism (3)?

2. What reasons did Paul have to be confident in the flesh (4-6)? What are Christians confident in today? How had Paul’s value system changed and what blessing does Christ give (7-9)? What does “the surpassing worth of knowing Christ” mean to us?

3. Read verse 10. What was Paul’s master passion? What does “to know Christ” mean? Why did he want to know “the power of his resurrection” (Ro 6:4,8-9)? What is the significance of participating in Christ’s sufferings (10b-11; 1:29; Mk 8:34)? *Discussion: What is my master passion and life goal?*

4. How did Paul pursue his life goal (12a,13-14)? What does it mean that Christ Jesus took hold of Paul (12b)? *Discussion: How can you attain your life goal?*

5. What view of things should mature Christians have (15)? How did Paul see those who think differently (15b)? How did he encourage the Philippians to live (16-17)? Who did Paul warn the Philippians about and why (18-19; Ro 6:1,15; Gal 5:13)?

6. Contrary to enemies of the cross, what is the identity and destiny of Christians (20)? What will Jesus do when he comes (21)?