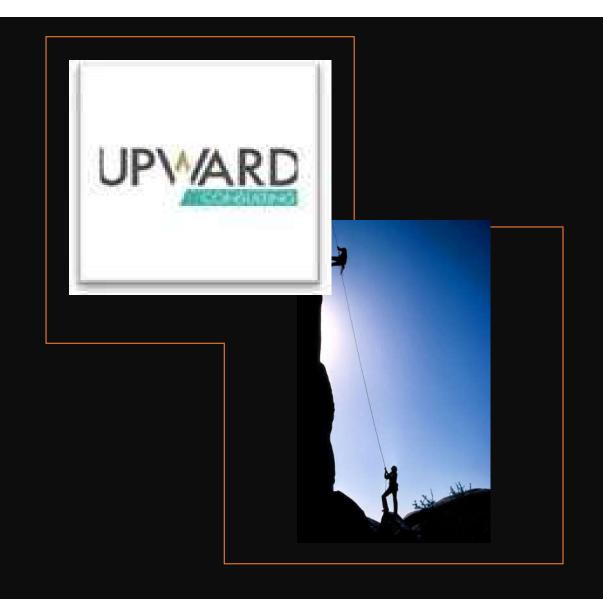
The Upward
Call of Christ:
"Take it or Leave it."

Pastor Nck Lee PHUPPIANS 3:7-17 December 31, 2023



Take It Or Leave It (TIOLI) Nantucket, MA



(7) But whatever things were gain to me, these things I have counted as loss because of Christ. (8) More than that, I count all things as 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 mere rubbish, so that I may gain Christ, (9) 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, (10) that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; (11) if somehow I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. (12) Not that I have already grasped it all or have already become perfect, but I press on if I may also take hold of that for which I was even taken hold of by Christ Jesus.

-Philippians 3:7-12 (NASB)

"Theologically Paul says, I have a new center: not a righteousness of my own based on my Jewish pedigree, observance of the law; but a righteousness that comes from God through faith in Jesus Christ. Paul has one consuming goal, to grow and mature in his faith and to be like Christ."

**Pastor Don Kent** 



Simplified
Theological Statement:
It is worth losing
everything
to Gain Christ!

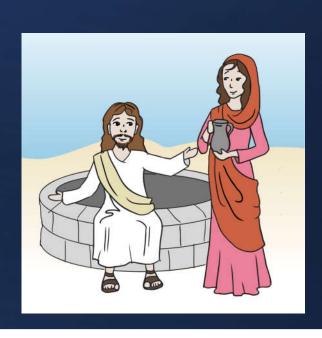
-Apostle Paul

Discipleship:
It is worth
\*sacrificing or
surrendering
everything to
Gain Christ?



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To become like Christ there are things I must be willing to lose- "suffer loss". (Sacrifice and Surrender)





#### The old life versus the new life

(4) Although I myself could boast as having confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he is confident in the flesh. I have more reason, (5) circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews, as to the Law, a Pharisee, (6) as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law found blameless.

In verses 4-6 Paul recounts highlights of his devout Jewish past. He says that if anyone could have confidence in their credentials and accomplishments for God it would be him. Perhaps some of them still of meaning and value in themselves, they were no longer central to Paul's life.



"Knowing Him" (verse10)

The Power of His Resurrection: (Justification)

The Power of the Forgiveness of Sins. (1 Corinthians 15:17 – Our faith is futile we are still in our sins),

The Power of the Holy Spirit. (Epistles).

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# "Knowing Him" (v.10) (Sanctification)

The Fellowship of His Suffering: AS WE MATURE.

Taking up the Cross and following Him.

Fellowship (commonality): suffering – sins of others and our own sins.





### "Knowing Him" (verse 10)-(Mortification)

Being conformed to his death: MORTIFICATION OF SIN.

Always carrying around in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may be revealed in our body.

2 Cor. 4:10 (NASB)

I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me, and the life I live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Galatians 2:20 (NASB)

## v.11- Attain Resurrection from the dead. (Glorification)

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; (8) in the future there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

-2 Timothy 4:7 (NASB) Paul at the end of His life.



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(13) Brothers and sisters I do not regard myself as having taken hold of it yet, but one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead. (14) I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (15) Therefore, all who are mature, let's have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that to you as well; (16) however, let's keep living by the same standard to which we have attained. (17) Brothers and sisters, join in following my example, and observing those who walk according to the pattern you have in us.

Philippians 3:13-17 (NASB)



Forgetting the Past and Reaching Forward to what lies ahead (verse 13).

In the Greek: "Forgetting what lies behind," has the purpose of moving forward (sailing term)- describes the action of turning away from the wind so that one might head towards an intended direction."

#### **PRACTICALLY**

- (1) We do not want to exalt the past (get stuck in memory lane).
- (2) We need to deal with unresolved things of the past.