

## **Guiding Principles from Philippians: That I may (1) Know Christ, (2) Be In Christ, (3) Gain Christ**

Text: Phil. 3:7-14

Developed by Bob Young

1 Thess. 5:17, prayer as the background music of your life

David Mason, *Compulsive Christian*. How will you measure life: What you have, what you do, what you are becoming

We can feel good at end of day: not what I did but what I was, the direction I am going, what I am becoming.

This is the polar star, the North Star, of the Christian life

Four principles for life are suggested by the text

### **First, live in availability**

Be available for God to do his kingdom work in and through me; be focused on his **PURPOSE**

Be still, Ps 46:10

This is how I become aware of and connect to his **PURPOSE**, whatever, wherever he wants

Phil. 2, let God do his work through us; Acts 28:31, unhesitatingly

### **Second, be sensitive**

Be open to opportunities, to share faith, with whomever, stores, daily life, to advance kingdom

Be open to his **GUIDANCE**

Be open to God's presence in my life and in the world; see him

Live our his presence in my life through the Holy Spirit; my connection with God's **GUIDANCE**

God sightings, affirmations

Hear, listen, talk, and communicate

Wash out the "stuff" of life

### **Third, live with an attitude of responsiveness**

Be responsive to his **POWER**; this is my connection to the **POWER** of God

This is integrity in life; this is seizing opportunities

### **Fourth, be aware of God's love**

Be changed by his **LIFE** and by his **LOVE**

It is a lot harder to get God to turn his back on you than we have thought or taught

God is for us, for his creation

Live in his will; be focused on his purpose

Will we fail? Yes. But we are not in and out of grace.

### **Conclusion**

What is the direction of your life?

Jesus is the solution to the problems of life: as we know him, exist in him, gain him

- Know Christ's power—solves our sin problem
- Share Christ's suffering—solves our life problem
- Be like Christ (in death)—solves our death problem
- Be like Christ (in resurrection)—solves our eternity problem

If we live life in the right attitude, right actions will follow (Phil. 2:5)