

SURPASSING WORTH

PHILIPPIANS 3:1-11

GETTING STARTED

 Have a couple of people share (briefly) how you came to know Jesus. What were the circumstances? When would you actually say that you came to know Jesus?

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Before you begin: Open with prayer and spend a minute or two in silence before God. Have multiple people ask the Holy Spirit to enter into your time together and illuminate your hearts and minds to scripture.

- Have someone read the passage aloud and note any observations, questions, and exciting insights you found while reading through the text to share with the group. What jumped out at you? What was something you noticed now that you didn't see before?
- What is the difference between the two groups: The "false circumcision" and the "true circumcision?" What is meant by "the flesh" how do we have "confidence in it?"
- What do you notice about Paul's resume? Why do you think he lists what he does?
- How can Paul, as decorated as he is, can say that everything he counts as gain in his life is actually a disadvantage to knowing Jesus? Does this mean that my pastor's seminary degree is worthless? Or does it mean that my Christian family upbringing was all for nothing?

WRAPPING UP

• What are some of the things in our lives we count as gain? How might we make a practice of "counting them as loss" for the sake of **knowing** Jesus?