

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Drawn from “Righteousness,” A Sermon on Philippians 3:7-9

Pastor Nicoletti @ Faith Pres Tacoma

May 3, 2026 AM

1. In the sermon passage, Paul describes a change of mind in which what he once considered to be valuable and gainful, he now considers to be “rubbish.” Think back to your childhood and youth: what did you once consider valuable and/or enviable but now consider trivial and/or worthless?
2. Look again at verse 9. Biblically speaking, what is righteousness? What are some misconceptions, misleading associations, or negative connotations that the secular culture around us might have about this concept?
3. In the sermon, Pastor Nicoletti argued that the longing to be righteous is universal. Do you agree? If so, where in your own life and/or in the world around you, do you see examples? If not, why not?
4. As a group, read Matthew 25:31-46, a passage which seems to say that righteousness is based on the record of one’s life. How does a passage like this fit with Paul’s message of “not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ?”

