



# REMEMBER PAUL



## Extreme Transformation (Acts 7:54-8:3, 9:1-22)

*“Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. But Saul began to destroy the church.”*

## Profit or loss? (v.4-7)

*“But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ.”*

Zealous  
'Legalistic'  
'Faultless'

But God... *“called me by His grace”* (Galatians 1:15)

## **Changing Priorities** (v.8)

*“What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of **knowing Jesus Christ as my Lord.**”*

*“I have lost all things. **I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ.**”*

*“Whatever you do... do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus.” Colossians 3:17*

## **Great Gains** (v.10-11)

- *to know Christ*
- *the power of his resurrection*
- *fellowship in suffering*
- *becoming like him in his death*
- *attaining the resurrection from the dead.*

## **Straining forward** (v.12-14)

*“No-one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.” Luke 9:62*

## **The ‘Mature’ view** (v.15, 16)

- Holding on
- Every step by grace

*“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”*

*Philippians 1:3-6*

### **Conversation starter:**

*Have you ever had to give anything up for Jesus? Did you consider it more of a ‘loss’ or a ‘gain’?*



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## Growth group questions

You'll find it helpful to have heard the talk—listen at: [bit.ly/hsbctalks](http://bit.ly/hsbctalks).  
*Some of these questions are personal and others are more general. Feel free to pick and choose which questions your group will find most helpful.*

### Read Philippians chapter 3, verses 7-19.

1. Is there more to being a Christian than simply deciding to 'accept' Christ? What are the dangers of seeing Christ as just an 'add on' to our lives? How is Paul's experience different to that?
2. How important is it to 'press on' (**v.12 & 14**), and 'strain towards to what is ahead' (**v.13**)?
3. What does it mean to have a 'mature' view of the Christian life? (v.12-16)
4. **Read 2 Peter 3: 13-18.** How is Peter's understanding of what it is to be a disciple the same as Paul's?
  - What are they looking forward to?
  - Is it ok to be passive on this journey?
  - What should we be wanting to 'grow' in?
5. All of Paul's 13 letters in the New Testament **start and end** with 'GRACE'. Take a few moments to find those verses in each of his letters (starting with **Romans** and going through to **Philemon**).
  - Why does Paul consider grace so essential to being a disciple of Jesus?

**PRAY:** *Spend some time thanking God for His grace. It's by grace you've been saved and it's by His grace you'll be able to keep pressing forward. Relying on God and His grace brings Him great glory, even as we endure great suffering. Thank God for His work in you!*