

A Resume to Live By
Philippians 3:1-11

I'm so jaded and so tired of it that I don't actually take the time anymore. I will send a stupid message like 'Hey, you're pretty. Want to grab a drink?' Literally mass message, like, twenty, thirty people because I'm so tired. They're going to base [their response] on looks anyway.

-“Arpan” in Aziz Ansari, *Modern Romance*

THE PROBLEM OF A RESUME (v. 1-6)

Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write to you again about this is no trouble for me and is a protection for you.

-Philippians 3:1

2 Watch out for “dogs,” watch out for evil workers, watch out for those who mutilate the flesh. 3 For we are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of God, boast in Christ Jesus, and do not put confidence in the flesh.

-Philippians 3:2-3

Despite God's call to be free and His earnest admonition to resist all efforts to curtail it, there is very little emphasis in Christian circles today on the importance of Christian freedom...Instead of promoting freedom, we stress our rules of performance...Instead of encouraging new believers to be conformed to Christ, we subtly insist that they be conformed to our particular style of Christian culture.

-Jerry Bridges, Transforming Grace

There was a basic logical paradox that I called the ‘fraudulence paradox’ that I had discovered more or less on my own while taking a mathematical logic course in school...The fraudulence paradox was that the more time and effort you put into trying to appear impressive or attractive to other people, the less impressive or attractive you felt inside — you were a fraud. And the more of a fraud you felt like, the harder you tried to convey an impressive or likable image of yourself so that other people wouldn’t find out what a hollow, fraudulent person you really were.

-David Foster Wallace, “Good Old Neon”

If anyone else thinks he has grounds for confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised the eighth day; of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; regarding the law, a Pharisee; 6 regarding zeal, persecuting the church; regarding the righteousness that is in the law, blameless.

-Philippians 3:4-6

THE GIFT OF A RESUME (v. 7-9)

7 But everything that was a gain to me, I have considered to be a loss because of Christ. 8 More than that, I also consider everything to be a loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. Because of Him I have suffered the loss of all things and consider them filth, so that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own from the law, but one that is through faith in Christ—the righteousness from God based on faith.

-Philippians 3:7-9

Then [the man] showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him...Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. 4 And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." 5 And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments.

-Zechariah 3:1-5

In Christ, your achievements describe you, they no longer define you

THE GOAL OF A RESUME (v. 8, 10-11)

I consider everything to be a loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

-Philippians 3:8

Knowing Christ doesn't come about through building our resume, but through actively relying on his

Growth in the Christian life is growth in the gospel of the grace of God

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ.

-2 Peter 3:18

10 My goal is to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, 11 so that I will somehow reach the resurrection from among the dead.

-Philippians 3:10-11