

**1. Christ doesn't need added to – v1-3**

- Circumcision – Jewish religious rite being brought into Christianity
- Circumcision would also give Christianity protection under Judaism
- Teachers teaching that you need Jesus + circumcision
- Paul furious because Jesus is enough; additions become our trust
- Paul furious because adding to Jesus work jeopardises salvation
- Marks of true Christians (v3) – worship without external ritual; delight in Jesus; confidence not in our performance, but Christ
- We mustn't add to Jesus even for cultural safety

**2. Christ outweighs all else – v4-8**

**a) Christ outweighs our best efforts**

- *“Whatever was to my profit I now consider loss”*
- All of Paul's colossal heritage counts for nothing
- All of his religious efforts took him further into debt
- Awful realisation that his efforts were 'dung' (*'rubbish'*)
- We need the richness of Christ and his work to get us into Heaven

**b) Christ offsets our worst losses**

- *“For whose sake I have lost everything”*
- Paul's earthly ambitions were destroyed – but not bitter
- For Paul, Christ offsets even the hardest circumstances
- Following Christ may mean we lose out
- We need to look at what we get, not what we lose

- The key to starting **and living** the Christian life is to see that Christ is far more valuable and necessary than anything else
- Keeps us from falling into temptation, pride, or resentment
- Our backgrounds allow people to see that Christ is worth more than the best, and outweighs the worst

**3. Keep your focus on the richness of Christ – v9**

- *“compared to the surpassing greatness of Christ Jesus my Lord”*
- He gives us himself – *“That I may gain Christ”*
- He gives us eternal security – *“being found in him”*
- He gives us acceptance with God – *“having a righteousness from God”*
- He gives the most and asks the least – *“and is by faith”*
- *“Rejoice in the Lord”* – Joy comes from keeping our eye on the prize, on Christ
- The more we see him, the less brightly will shine the lights of this world

**Notices**

Sun	Evening service at Day Centre Praise time - come with a psalm	8pm
Tues	Bible Study at Seamus & May's	8pm
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	Presbytery Youth Event - Table Quiz Limavady	8pm
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup>	Romania Report - Sam Thompson Faughan Church	7.30pm

**Mission Team to Nantes (France)**

The Nantes 2010 Go Team will take place from 27th March to 5th April. Anyone wishing to be part of the team should contact Rev Andrew Kerr - 048 9070 1721 or [andrew@andrewkerr5.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:andrew@andrewkerr5.wanadoo.co.uk)

**getting to know the  
WIDER CHURCH**

Congregation: Galway  
Presbytery: Western  
Pastor: Raymond Blair, married to Carole, four daughters:  
Eleanor, Labhaoise, Rosaleen & Iona  
Mission Worker: Billy Hamilton, married to Mary, 3 boys: Caleb,  
Michael & Patrick  
Attendance: around 25



**Prayer points:**

- Pray that the Lord will bless the home bible studies. Pray that the fellowship will learn more about Him and become more Christlike.
- Several people have health problems. Pray that God will give them the strength to cope.
- Pray for those who contacted the fellowship after the 'Go week' in the summer. Pray that God will make the gospel clear to them.
- Pray for the Christianity Explored course at Lough Rea.

Sunday 22nd - Philippians 3:10-11  
Opening Psalm: 107:1-6

Pastor: Mark Loughridge Tel: 074 9123961 email: [mark@newlifefellowship.ie](mailto:mark@newlifefellowship.ie)  
Oversight elders: William Lynch 048 7139 8002 Robert Tait 9101668 Colin Tait 9147352