

SCRIPTURE:

- Philippians 3:8 - 11

CONVERSATIONS

- Read Psalm 63:1. What does it mean to 'know God' (as opposed to knowing a lot about God or being right with God or doing things for God)?
- Read Philippians 3:8. Has it ever cost you something to identify as a follower of Jesus? If so, what did it cost you? If it hasn't cost you much – and for many of us it hasn't cost us much – should we be concerned about the fact that it hasn't really cost us much? Why or why not?
- Read Philippians 3:10.
 - What does it mean to know the power of Jesus' resurrection?
 - Read Romans 8:11. What implication does Jesus' resurrection have for this life that we are living right now?
 - How does Jesus' resurrection and the new creation that it points to, give us strength and confidence in the present?
 - Have you ever experienced significant suffering or stress alongside someone else? Did it draw you together or push you apart?
 - How does sharing in the sufferings of Jesus help us know Jesus' more?
 - How does dying to yourself lead to a closer relationship with Jesus?
- As you look back on the history of your relationship with Jesus, when were you closest to Jesus? What was it about that time that caused your relationship to be so strong?

PRAYER

- Pray for the business meeting on the 27th. Pray for unity as we move forward with plans for the building. Pray that God would be glorified in our decision-making and provide for our needs.
- Ephesians 6:12 tells us that '*... our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*' As Covid restrictions ease and we are allowed to gather again, pray that any barriers preventing people from returning to church or coming to church for the first time would be overcome.
- Pray that God would send the right person to lead our Children's ministry and for more people who are willing to serve our children there.
- Pray that we would truly be light in our city so that those around us would come to know Jesus, the true Light of the world.