

BCVT VISION: Bringing the unchurched into the family of God to advance His Kingdom

GENESIS 15:1(NKJV) After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. ***I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward.***"

- When looking at our vision, what are some of the goals that we might want to achieve?
- It could be reaching the lost, it could be building, growing the church.
- While these goals are noble within themselves, they should never be more important than the pursuit of intimacy with God
- The most attractive thing about our fellowship, to an outsider who's earnestly seeking God, will be individuals who have an intimate relationship with God
- While some may be attracted by various other things, like the building's location, the service times, the casual dress code, the music, the preaching, the bikes, there will always be those who are searching for authentic Christianity. This is only evident through intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 3:3-9(NLTSE) "For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort, though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more!

I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.

I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could ***gain Christ and become one with him***"

- Even in our efforts to fulfill our vision, our goal must always be for the real reward: God, our ***exceedingly great reward***

PHILIPPIANS 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

CARE GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What are some of the things that make receiving a prize or reward, so appealing?
2. In what way is God, our exceedingly great reward?
3. How can we keep intimacy with God, our main goal, while pursuing our church's vision?