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## Sermon Text Discussion 11/5/17

Reformation 500: Recovering Gospel Doctrine for Gospel Culture  
Christ Alone (Philippians 3:1-11)  
By Drew Hunter

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### Overview

The reformation did two things: It recovered gospel doctrine, and it renewed gospel culture. The recovery of gospel doctrine led to the renewal of gospel culture. When we don't just have the right theology in our doctrinal statements, but we really let it drop down into our hearts, our lives change and it frees us. If you want to put the result of the reformation in one word, it's "joy". The reformation recovered true joy. The joy came when people came face to face with the real Jesus again. One of the reasons for this was because they found that they were justified – they were declared 100% accepted by God – on the basis of Christ alone. Jesus did it all, and he did enough. We just receive him and his work for us by faith. When we rediscover the gospel, we find out what God is really like, and we find the source of true joy.

1. Paul's recovery of joy
2. The greatest threat to true joy
3. The only source of true joy
  - a. Finding Christ
  - b. Being found in Christ
4. Gospel culture

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### Quotations

False Christianity is not a Christ-less Christianity, it is a Christ-plus Christianity. False Christianity is a Christ-plus way of salvation; true Christianity is a Christ-alone way of salvation. A Jesus plus religion is not real Christianity. And it threatens our joy.— Drew Hunter

If I could believe that God was not angry with me, I would stand on my head for joy.—Martin Luther

We do not...contemplate [Christ] outside ourselves from afar in order that his righteousness may be imputed to us but because we put on Christ and are engrafted into his body – in short, because he deigns to make us one with him.--John Calvin

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### Understanding & Application

1. Drew mentioned that this passage is not a contrast between religion and irreligion. What is it a contrast between? Explain those two different ideas.
2. How is "Christ plus something" a threat to our true joy?
3. What are you tempted to rely on, in any measure, aside from Christ?
4. How was Paul the "poster boy" for keeping the law? Why were these things that Paul lists in verses 5-6 relevant?
5. Why were issues of self-righteousness particularly relevant at the time of the reformation?
6. What is meant by being "united with Christ"?
7. Paul and the other apostles didn't just preach the gospel; they said they preached Christ. Interact with this statement: We don't use Christ to get something other than Christ.