

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

\*\*Romans 3:20-24\*

## Take out the trash

Your phone is worthless. Your friends don't matter. School is important, but not that important. Your job is not a big deal. Your video games are garbage. The sports you play are meaningless. Your social media accounts are unimportant. Like comparing a remote-control car to an actual Ferrari, all of these things are nothing when you compare them to knowing Christ.

## Follow along with me:

- When you know Christ, you have faith in him.
- When you have faith in Christ, you are perfect in God's eyes.
- When you are perfect in God's eyes, you are guaranteed heaven.
- Therefore, those who know Christ have heaven! Nothing else really matters.

As you get ready to celebrate the death and life of Jesus, take out the trash and value knowing Christ above everything else. Clear away the trash, the things that aren't as important, so that you can focus your heart on what is truly valuable. Focus on the sufferings of Christ that took on your sin. Think about his resurrection that gives you heaven and promises life forever.

Get ready to celebrate the death and life of Jesus by valuing in your heart what is truly most precious to you.

Prayer: Lord God be with the missionaries who bring the most precious gift of heaven to people all over the world. Bless their work so that more can share in this valuable treasure. Amen.