

*Valley Bible Church – Sermon Study Questions*

**Study Aid for the Sermon from July 20-21, 2002**

**"Paul's Spiritual Accounting Practices"**

**Observing the text**

What does Paul mean when he says, "I count all things to be loss?" What are those things?

Do the words "for the sake of Christ" have more to do with what Paul would experience or more to do with what Christ would experience?

What are different ways we can know someone? In what way does Paul want to know Christ?

Why would Paul say "that I may gain Christ" rather than saying "that I may be saved?"

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### **Applying the sermon**

Do you believe that Paul by faith accepted Christ both as Savior and Lord on the Damascus Road? If so, do you believe that was necessary in order for him to gain Christ? Please explain.

Consider the spiritual ledger of the rich young ruler when he had rejected Christ as his Savior and Lord. What were his assets? How did his assets compare to Paul's after Paul counted everything as loss in order to gain Christ?

Like the rich young ruler do you believe that people today need to count their finances as loss if they are going to gain Christ? How might this practically impact the typical Christian American family?

What other things do you believe people struggle in counting as loss for Christ? What has been your greatest struggle? In light of your answer what do you need to do?