



Daily Devotion



*"Whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ."
Philippians 3:7*

I heard about a man from Wisconsin who stopped for directions in St. Louis. He asked how to get to Springfield. He was given directions to Springfield, Missouri when he actually was wanting to go to Springfield, Illinois. At some point on his journey he became aware that all the miles he had been traveling were for nothing because he had been traveling in the opposite direction of his goal.

St. Paul was making great gains before he became a Christian. He was passing every car and truck on the highway--*advancing as a Pharisee, blameless under the Law*. But after Jesus appeared to him on the road (to Damascus), Paul realized that all his gains in the Law were without value because He had been going in the wrong direction. Like the man making great time driving to Springfield, Missouri, Paul declares that everything he had done in his life was worthless garbage when compared to knowing and gaining Christ.

So many today think they are making great gains toward their heavenly goal because they are living as decent people under God's Law. But all such gains are going in the opposite direction for they are gains apart from Christ. Every gain you make in Jesus, no matter how small, is a gain in the right direction. To know Jesus and His love; to hear His words of life; to have peace with God through what Jesus has done for you; to trust in His righteousness and not in your own--this is to move toward the goal, for then you are gaining Christ.

Keep me always moving forward with Jesus, dear Father, that I may be found to be in Him now and when I die. Amen.