

Christ is Life: Pressing On

Philippians 3:12-16

Read Philippians 3:12-16 together:

"Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. ¹⁶ Only let us hold true to what we have attained."

4 Steps to Experience Spiritual Growth:

1. Recognize that you haven't arrived yet (v. 12).

- ? How does Paul display humility in verse 12? Why might he have been tempted to be prideful instead?
- ? What kind of actions does a person do when they are assuming they don't need to grow anymore?
- ? What kind of actions show that a person is willing to admit that they're not perfect?

2. Stay amazed by the gospel (v. 12).

- ? Why do we tend to become comfortable with or blasé about the gospel?
- ? What must we remember for our hearts to be captivated by the gospel?

3. Forget the past (v. 13).

- ? What was Paul's past? How does that give you courage to forget your own?
- ? Read John 19:30. What did Jesus say just before he died on the cross? How does this give you the freedom to leave your sin in the past?
- ? What sin in your past do you want to let go of and forget today?

4. Press on to the future (v. 14).

- ? What is "the prize" in verse 14?
- ? Do your actions proclaim to the world what your ultimate prize is? If not, what needs to change?

Application:

- ? How can you hold fast to the gospel this week?
- ? Which step do you need to focus on this week?