

SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 3:12-21

SUMMARY

Just as Paul pressed on toward the upward call of God in Christ, he wanted the Philippians to fix their eyes on Jesus and the hope He had in store for them. We too should follow Paul's example and keep running toward Jesus until we finally take hold of that which took hold of us.

Message Connection: The message mentioned three ways we keep going: forgetting, straining, and waiting.

Teaching Point 1: Forgetting

Verse 13 – *Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind...*

Discuss: Do you find it difficult to let go of the past? How can we as Christians fight against the temptation to be defined by our past?

Teaching Point 2: Straining

Verse 13 – *But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead...*

Discuss: What might straining forward look like for you? Have there been times when you've wanted to give up?

Teaching Point 3: Waiting

Verses 20-21 – *But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.*

Discuss: What does it look like to eagerly wait for Jesus to return? How should this waiting impact how we live now?

Pray: Ask God to help you keep going. Pray for His grace to continue forgetting the past, straining toward Jesus, and eagerly waiting for Him to make all things new.