



FINDING JOY IN WHAT MATTERS MOST
Philippians 3:10-19
Pastor Scott Farmer
March 21-22, 2015

Warm it up

- 1] What popular movie would you like to have depict your life? What is your role in that movie?

Talk it over

- 2] In verses 12-13, Paul evaluates his progress toward knowing Christian maturity. How would you describe his self-assessment?
- 3] What further insights come from Proverbs 28:13? How does your experience compare with this truth?
- 4] In verse 13, Paul talks about “forgetting what is behind”. Elsewhere we are told to “forget the former things” [Isaiah 43:18]. Why is it important to forget the past? What are we wise to forget? What are we wise to never forget? What is the danger of continually remembering past failures? Successes? Hurts? How do we learn from our past while forgetting it?
- 5] Paul was able to say “One thing I do” and that he strained toward “the goal”. All of his activities pointed toward one thing, one unifying passion, one goal. What was his one goal? Is this kind of focus unique to Paul’s personality, or is it the way all believers should live? Explain your answer.
- 6] Paul talks of pressing on, straining to win the prize [v. 13]. See also 2 Timothy 4:7-8]. How does that language relate to your attempts at perfection in Christian maturity and ministry?

Work it out

- 7] What faults do I need to face? Where do I need to change?
- 8] What memory do I need to let go?
- 9] Do I have a unifying goal in life? Why did Christ take hold of me?



- 10] What obstacles must I overcome to finish faithfully? What disciplines need strengthening if I am to finish strong?
- 11] Who are my partners on this journey? How can my small group be useful to me in any of these areas?

Pray it through

Even having Christ-honoring aspirational goals is a gift from God. Having the courage, faith, and follow through to achieve them is clearly evidence of God's Spirit at work. Pray for one another as an act of joining together [v. 17] on this journey of knowing Christ and becoming more like him!