

"THE JOY OF KNOWING CHRIST"

Series: "A LIFE WORTH LIVING", Part 6 of 8 Sunday, November 10, 2024, at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Philippians 3:12-21

Big Idea: At its core, the Christ-following life is a relationship where we become more and more intimately familiar with Christ.

I. A DELIBERATE FORGETFULNESS ABOUT THE PAST

Philippians 3:13a, "Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: *Forgetting what is behind* ..."

I Timothy 1:13a, "Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy..."

I Timothy 1:14-16, "The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life."

II. A HUMBLE FAITHFULNESS IN THE PRESENT.

Philippians 3:12, Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made *perfect*, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

Philippians 3:13-14, "Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I **press on toward the goal** to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Joshua 14:11-12a, "I am still as strong today as the day Moses sent me out; I'm just as vigorous to go out to battle now as I was then. Now give me this hill country that the Lord promised me that day."

A. Growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord.

Philippians 3:15-16, "All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. Only let us live up to what we have already attained."

B. Representing Jesus better today than I did yesterday.

Philippians 3:17, "Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you."

Philippians 3:18-19, "For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things."

III. A JOYFUL FOCUS ON THE FUTURE.

Philippians 3:20-21, "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."

Philippians 3:20, "But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ."