



THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE GOSPEL

PHILIPPIANS 3:12-16

Press On!

Small Group Study Guide

¹John MacArthur, *The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: Philippians* (Chicago: Moody Press, 2001), 247.

1. John MacArthur stated: “Churches are full of spiritual cripples, paralyzed by the grudges, bitterness, sins, and tragedies of the past. Others try to survive in the present by reliving past successes.”¹ Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Support your answer.
2. What is the “it” that Paul says he has not already obtained (v. 12)? To answer this, refer back to Philippians 3:8.
3. In your own words, what does it mean to “know Christ”?
4. In what way does one come to obtain the “surpassing value of knowing Christ” at the point of conversion (of receiving Christ the Lord by faith)?
5. In what way does one continue to gain more of the “surpassing value of knowing Christ” through a life lived in obedience and surrender to Christ the Lord?
6. In what way will we fully obtain the prize of the “surpassing value of knowing Christ” at the point we will see Him face to face in His glory?

Don't Forget:

Discuss the Sermon Notes from this week

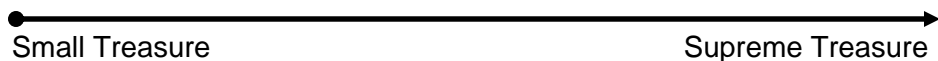
7. This passage, Philippians 3:12-16, deals with the goal of spiritual growth into the likeness of Christ Jesus. Based on Philippians 3:12, why is it important to realize that we “never arrive” in this life?
- What happens when one thinks that they have arrived and obtained spiritual maturity?
 - For whom is it more of a temptation to think you have arrived: a new believer; one who has been a believer for ten years; one who has been a believer for over twenty years? Explain your answer.

8. Based on Philippians 3:13, what are the two necessary activities that must occur to continue to experience growth in Christ-likeness and the surpassing value of knowing Christ?
9. What types of things from the past might we dwell on that would hinder us from growing in the present? What does it mean to “forget them”?
10. If the “surpassing value of knowing Christ the Lord” is to see Christ as the supreme treasure and the highest joy in your life, where are you in reaching the goal of knowing Christ? Are you content with where you are? Why or why not? If not, what are you going to do to change?

BIBLE MEMORY:

One thing I do: Forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13-14



11. What might be some practices you are to engage in so that you grow in seeing Christ as the supreme treasure and highest joy in your life? Why did you name these practices?
12. What is it, from this study, you will seek to apply in your life, faithfully committing to ***The Fellowship of the Gospel?***

For Next Week:
Prayerfully meditate and study the following: **Philippians 3:17-21**