

Pressing On When the Pressure's On Notes

Philippians 3:12-4:1

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Main Point: You will never coast into Christlikeness because spiritual growth is intentional, not automatic.

Dissatisfaction (vs. 12)

1. To run the race and keep moving forward, first we must be _____ with where we are right now.
2. He had not yet "obtained" it, which means he had not fully _____ the godly life.
3. He knew he was far from "perfect," which refers to being made _____.
4. Paul had no trouble _____ His transgressions (1 Timothy 1:15).
5. Some of us have stopped growing because frankly we think we've _____, or at least that we're doing better than others.

Devotion (vs. 12)

1. To "press on" means to "_____ as a hunter."
2. It has the idea of moving rapidly and _____ toward an objective, straining every spiritual muscle to win the prize.
3. He wanted to "make it my own," which means to "take eagerly, to lay _____ of."
4. Jesus had taken hold of him, slamming him to the ground in Acts 9, and now he wanted to make sure he was _____ on to Christ.

Direction (vs. 13)

1. The phrase, "one thing" is used several times in Scripture to help us see how our faith must be single-minded, and laser _____ (Psalm 27:4, Mark 10:21, Luke 10:42, John 9:25).
2. If we keep looking _____, you won't win the race.
3. Forgetting what is "behind."
 - The garbage of _____ stuff – Paul wanted to forget even the good things on his religious resume.
 - The garbage of _____ stuff – Paul had plenty of reason to feel guilty and ashamed.
4. Paul knew he couldn't keep chastising himself for his past failings and he also knew he couldn't keep patting himself on the back for past _____.
5. To "forget" in the Bible means "to no longer be _____ by or affected by."
6. He uses the word "forgetting," which is in the present tense, meaning we must do it on a _____ basis.

7. The phrase “straining forward” refers to “_____ oneself to the uttermost by stretching out and staining toward something,” much like runners do at the finish line of races.

Determination

1. To “press on” has the idea of “intensely _____ the prize, running flat out, bearing down in order to win.”
2. The “prize” refers to awards and _____.
3. Focusing on the future will have a _____ effect on the present (1 John 2:2-3).

Discipline (vs. 15-16)

1. The phrase “hold true” means our walk must _____ our talk.

Discipleship (vs. 17)

1. The word “example” refers to a _____ into which clay or wax was pressed.
2. To “keep your eyes on” means to “_____ your gaze on, to observe, or pay attention to.”
3. Ponder these two questions:
 - _____ are you following?
 - Who is _____ you?
4. Verses 18-19 challenge us not to follow _____ examples because not every relationship is good for you.
5. Be careful about who you hang out with because you could eventually _____ like them (1 Corinthians 15:33).
6. True believers are always in the _____ (Matthew 7:13).
7. We need _____ to grow in our discipleship.

Delight (vs. 20-4:1)

1. Our home is in _____ – we are citizens of another place.
2. Jesus is coming again – we need to eagerly wait for Jesus with the expectation He could return at any moment.
3. Everything will be _____ right.
4. We will be _____.
5. Other believers should give us _____.

Action Steps

1. _____ with God’s people every weekend.
2. _____ in your devotion to God by practicing the spiritual disciplines.
3. _____ what God has given you.
4. _____ with the gospel to your neighbors and to the nations.