

PHILIPPIANS

To Live Is Christ



The Goal

A close-up photograph of a black and white soccer ball caught in a white goal net. The ball is the central focus, with its hexagonal and pentagonal panels clearly visible. The net is made of thick white rope and is slightly out of focus in the foreground and background. The background is a clear, bright blue sky. The overall image conveys a sense of achievement and reaching a goal.

Philippians 3:1-20

Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write to you again about this is no trouble for me and is a protection for you. Watch out for “dogs,” watch out for evil workers, watch out for those who mutilate the flesh. For we are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of God, boast in Christ Jesus, and do not put confidence in the flesh—

although I once had confidence in the flesh too. If anyone else thinks he has grounds for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised the eighth day; of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, persecuting the church; as to the righteousness that is in the law, blameless.

But everything that was a gain to me, I have considered to be a loss because of Christ. More than that, I also consider everything to be a loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. Because of Him I have suffered the loss of all things and consider them filth, so that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness

of my own from the law, but one that is through faith in Christ—the righteousness from God based on faith. My goal is to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, assuming that I will somehow reach the resurrection from among the dead.

Not that I have already reached the goal or am already fully mature, but I make every effort to take hold of it because I also have been taken hold of by Christ Jesus. Brothers, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead, I pursue as my goal the prize promised by God's heavenly

call in Christ Jesus. Therefore, all who are mature should think this way. And if you think differently about anything, God will reveal this to you also. In any case, we should live up to whatever truth we have attained. Join in imitating me, brothers, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For I have often told you, and now say again

with tears, that many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction; their god is their stomach; their glory is in their shame. They are focused on earthly things, but our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humble condition into the likeness of His

glorious body, by the power that enables Him
to subject everything to Himself.

The Goal

A close-up photograph of a black and white soccer ball caught in a white goal net. The ball is the central focus, with its hexagonal and pentagonal panels clearly visible. The net's ropes are draped over the ball, creating a sense of being trapped or caught. The background is a clear, bright blue sky, suggesting an outdoor setting. The overall image conveys a sense of achievement and reaching a goal.

Philippians 3:1-20

Concerning Placement

Some people have CONCERNS and PERFORMANCES they believe to be the most important

HEAVEN scores points differently

For Paul, the goal is CHRIST

Playing to Win

A person's hands are shown holding a large, silver trophy with two handles. The trophy is the central focus of the image, and the person's hands are visible at the bottom, gripping the base of the trophy. The background is a plain, light color.

Putting forth the **EFFORT**

Forget, **REACH** and **PURSUE**

There is no eternal “**UPWARDS**” sports

What About You?

Is your goal in life Christ?

**How much effort are you
putting into that goal?**