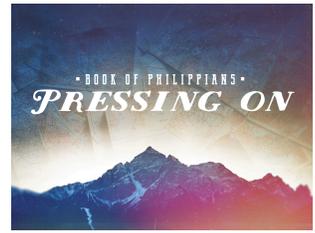


Going Deeper

Pressing On: Hope For The Future

Philippians 3 / Sermon Notes



Despite his circumstances, Paul was a joyful man and he wanted the Philippians to reflect that joy in their lives as well. Paul's joy came from his identity in Christ and not in his earthly accomplishments. Because of Christ's accomplishments for us, Paul reminds the Philippians to reach forward and live as citizens of heaven here on earth. Our hope for the future is something we eagerly wait for knowing that one day we will experience the power of the resurrection and the glorious transformation of our lives in Christ.

OPEN

What is one major goal you have in life and how are you working to accomplish it?

STUDY

1. Our future depends on a _____ with God and not our own _____.

- No confidence in the flesh: No amount of effort or *good works* can earn you God's approval or make you righteous.
- Counted as loss: There is nothing that *compares* to the excellency of knowing Jesus.
- That I may know Him: A *personal relationship* with Jesus is at the very center of salvation and the Christian life.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." - Ephesians 2:8-9

"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?" - Matthew 16:26

2. Our future is a _____ that we live out in our _____ with God.

- Lay hold: Belonging to Christ impacts the way we live *for Christ* today.
- Forgetting what is behind: Looking at the *past* often keeps us from what God has for us in the *present*.
- Upward call: *Every day* we have the opportunity to accomplish the call of God in our lives.

"No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." - Luke 9:62

"Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." - Matthew 6:10

3. Our future _____ can occur suddenly as we _____ for Jesus.

- Citizenship in heaven: As *ambassadors*, we represent the values of heaven and our king on earth.
- Eagerly wait: Jesus' imminent return gives us *hope* for renewal and transformation.
- Stand fast: Jesus can return at any moment so we need to *persevere* and be *ready* for when He comes.

"In a moment, in the winking of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." - 1 Corinthians 15:52

"Watch therefore, for you do not what hour your Lord is coming. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." - Matthew 24:42, 44