

Focus for the Journey







Philippians 3:12-16 (ESV)

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,

Philippians 3:12-16 (ESV)

I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. Only let us hold true to what we have attained.

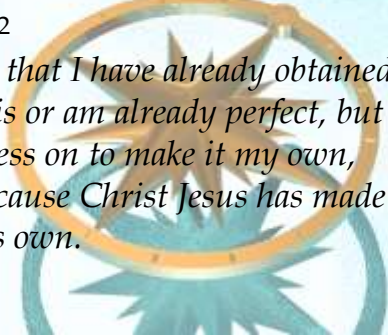
**I. Loosing Focus Danger #1:
"I have arrived!"**



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Vs. 12

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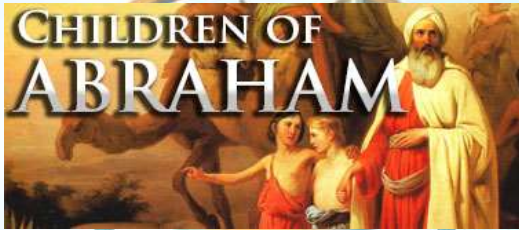
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Our focus:

*To know, love and
obey Jesus Christ!*

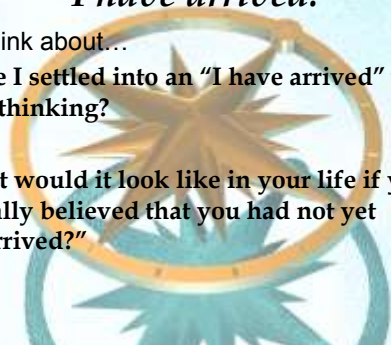


*I. Loosing Focus Danger #1:
"I have arrived!"*

To think about...

Have I settled into an "I have arrived" way of thinking?

What would it look like in your life if you really believed that you had not yet "arrived?"



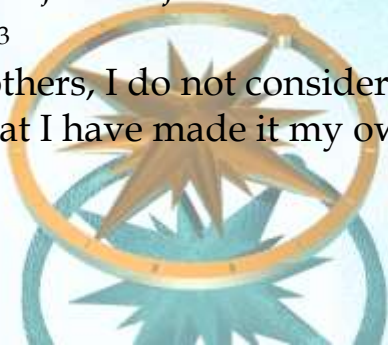
II. Loosing Focus Danger #2:
"I will just wait for it to come to me."



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Vs. 13

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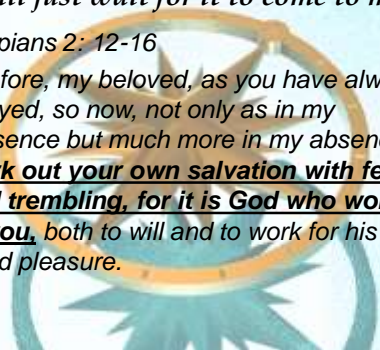
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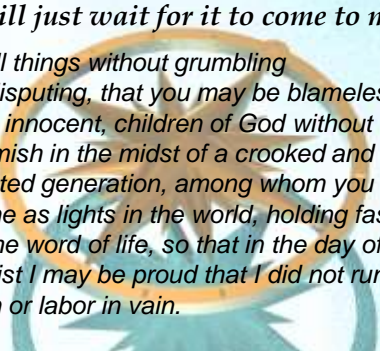
Philippians 2: 12-16

*Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.***



II. Loosing Focus Danger #2:
"I will just wait for it to come to me."

Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.



II. Loosing Focus Danger #2:
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Philippians 2: 12-16

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you,** both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

II. Loosing Focus Danger #2:
"I will just wait for it to come to me."

To think about...

How are you actively, deliberately engaged in growing toward Christ?

III. Loosing Focus Danger #3:
"Just look at my past."



**III. Loosing Focus Danger #3:
"Just look at my past."**

VS. 13b-14

But one thing I do: **forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead**, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**III. Loosing Focus Danger #3:
"Just look at my past."**

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

**III. Loosing Focus Danger #3:
"Just look at my past."**

Philippians 4:13 (ESV)

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

III. Loosing Focus Danger #3: "Just look at my past."

Romans 8:35, 37-39 (ESV)

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?
Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or
famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

No, in all these things we are **more
than conquerors** through him who loved us. For
I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels
nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything
else in all creation, will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

III. Loosing Focus Danger #3: "Just look at my past."

To think about...

What do you need to do to
leave your past in the past,
and focus on your future in
and with Jesus?

To think about...

1. *What would it look like in your life if you really believed that you had not yet "arrived?"*
2. *How are you actively, deliberately engaged in growing toward Christ?*
3. *What do you need to do to leave your past in the past, and focus on your future in and with Jesus?*
