

Living Courageously

25-Day Devotional on Philippians

WEEK 4

DAY 18

Praise (Reflect on what you're grateful for from DAY 17 with the Lord)

Read the text: Philippians 3:12-16 (Jot down key or repeated words and phrases)

Ask questions & interpret the context:

- There is nothing static about Paul's pursuit of Christ. Can you recall a time when you got complacent?
- In what ways have you found yourself looking back "in your rear-view mirror?"
- What spurs you on to know Jesus more? And what steps do you plan to take to move in that direction?

Summarize: Now take a moment to go back and pour over your observations as well as your responses to the questions.

Engage with God: Bring your thoughts, questions, and desire for change to the Lord for his forgiveness, wisdom, correction, guidance, and direction. Here are some more questions to consider:

1. What is the Lord saying to you personally?
2. What do you need to pray about?
3. With whom does the Lord want you to share this devotional?
4. Who has the Lord placed on your heart to pray for and invite to church?

DIGGING DEEPER (Optional)

- Paul's primary life goals were relentlessly focused on Jesus. What's yours? (Consider I Corinthians 9:24-27; 1 Timothy 4:7-10; 2 Timothy 4:7-8)
- What sins or failures from your past are still haunting you that you have not allowed the Lord to forgive you and help you overcome?
- As you can see in verse 12, Paul rightly viewed himself in the *process* of becoming more like Jesus. In what ways have you been sensing the Lord wanting to shape you lately to become more like Him?
- Consider how you would counsel a friend on letting go of his/her past in order to experience freedom and victory in Christ alone. (Vv. 13-16)
- How is the Lord speaking to you as a result of reflecting on this passage today?