

Philippians 3:12–16: Mature Christianity

Mature Christianity Is Focused on the Goal

“Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.” (Philippians 3:8–11)

Mature Christianity Presses On

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it” (1 Corinthians 9:24).

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:1–2)

Mature Christianity Is Grounded in Jesus

“It is finished!” (John 19:30)

Mature Christianity Is Motivating, Liberating, and Focusing

“And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.” (John 16:8)

“He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.” (John 16:14)

“I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands.” (Psalm 143:5)

“I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.” (1 Timothy 1:12–15)

Notes

Discuss

- When you think about mature Christians, who do you think about, and why?
- What are some specific ways that Christians might press on in following Jesus?
- What are some ways that the failures and successes of the past can get in the way of Christians following Jesus?

Read

Phillippians 3:1–13; Hebrews 5:11–6:12

Pray

- That the Holy Spirit will give you the desire to press on.
- That God will help you to forget your past and focus on the future goal of knowing Christ.
- That the finished work of Jesus will be your motivation in following him.

Announcements

- Life Groups (Coye and Emily Still, Randy and Crystal Syring, and Steve and Miriam Christy) Starting in January, 2022 (info@fsbcknobs.com for More Information)
- All-Church Sunday School: January 2 at 9:30am
- Membership Class: January 9, 16, 23, and 30
- Officer Nominations: Due by January 31, 2022