

17 Philippians 3:11-14

This One Thing I Do

1. Phil 3:10-11

- a. *"power of his resurrection"* – To know this your old man must die – Eph 1:19, 3:21;
- b. We should walk in newness of life, and that life in the Spirit - Rom 6:3-5
- c. *"conformable unto death"* – which has to do knowing Christ (3:8, Rom 8:29, 12:2)
- d. *"by any means"* – whether by life or death – Phil 1:20, our goal is resurrection glory

2. Phil 3:12

- a. *"not... attained"* – Paul knows what he has been promised – 2 Tim 1:12, 1 Cor 15
- b. He is not yet in a resurrected body. He must reckon and count himself to be dead.
- c. *"I follow after that I may apprehend"* ... things like 1Tim 6:11-12, Rom 14:19
- d. Noblemen honorable men, wise men, holy men are not made, they are known
- e. *"that for which also I am apprehended"* – We are arrested by Christ to be ambassadors

3. Phil 3:13

- a. *"this one thing I do"* – how many things are you doing?
- b. Sincerity – free from duplicity/ double mind - one mind, heart, hope – Col 3:22
- c. *"forgetting..."* – Lk 9:62 (thank God for grace). It is hard to forget, but you need to.
- d. Forget *def.* to lose out of mind, we are trying to renew our mind – Eph 4:22-24
- e. The old man had a personality, a career, went to prom, won trophies, had habits.
- f. Paul was a religious zealot and a persecutor of Christ and his flock – Gal 1:13-14
- g. We forget the good and the bad of our flesh – Phil 3:7, 2 Cor 5:16
- h. Forgiveness does not raise the same complaint again – Eph 4:32
- i. Holding a grudge is malice and envy - Titus 3:3-4
- j. The things behind are a hindrance, reaching forth requires a refocus
- k. *"reaching forth"* – We are looking to advance (not in our old man in earthly pursuit)
- l. What you value changes – a new orientation, a new life, new affections – Col 3:2

4. Phil 3:14

- a. *"I press toward the mark"* – The one thing Paul does. A phrase used by athletes.
- b. Pressing requires doing some thing, not sitting idly and waiting for it to happen.
- c. The mark = the prize = resurrected glory in Phil 1:11
- d. *"high calling"* – People say they are called, and what follows is an earthly vocation
- e. God never calls anyone to work at McDonalds, but they do...Eph 4:1
- f. Your own ambitions can distract you from your calling and identity in Christ.
- g. Run that you may obtain the prize – 1 Cor 9:24-27, 2 Tim 4:5-8
- h. God's calling is eternal holy to salvation in heaven - Eph 2:6, Phil 3:20, 2 Tim 1:9
- i. For some this is a disappointment, for others a relief – the difference is perspective
- j. Not many wise men, mighty or noble are called - 1 Cor 1:26
- k. Our calling is in 1 Cor 1:9, Titus 2:11-13, Col 3:15