

A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of February 21, 2021

My Own, His Own

This week, Pastor Steve Shelby preached from Philippians 3:12-15

¹² 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. ¹³ 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, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you.

For Further Discussion...

- Sometimes life feels like a sprint. Sometimes, it is a marathon.
 What grueling marathon are you running these days?
- Paul compares following Christ to a race. What are the similarities?
- Paul says that he has not "already obtained this", and he is pressing on to "make it my own" (12). Revisit <u>Philippians 3:8-11</u>.
 What is Paul pursuing?
- Paul endeavors to forget what lies behind (13). When is looking back valuable in discipleship, and when does looking back impede us?
- What is one way following Jesus has required you to forget what lies behind in order to press on?
- From what you know of Paul's life, how did he "press on" (12, 14)?

- Paul speaks of pursuing a prize. Is he implying that he is earning his salvation (14)? In your own words, what is he communicating?
- How would Paul define **Christian maturity** (15)? Does his definition **encourage or challenge** you?
- In verse 15, how does Paul deal with any of the Philippians who might disagree with him? Why is this a faithful response to any conflict in this case?
- Pray together in light of this week's passage.

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