



THRIVE

A LOOK AT
PHILIPPIANS

Session#4: Growing with Joy

Text: Philippians 3:12-21

Question #1: What Experiences or encounters have helped you grow spiritually?

(3:12-14)

“Not as though I had already obtained”
is the statement of a Christian who
never permitted himself to be satisfied
with his spiritual attainments

“Forget the Past”

- We’re not here to use yesterday’s struggles and victories as excuses to live complacently today.
- There were things in Paul’s past that could have been weights holding him back but they became inspirations to press him ahead.

“One Thing I do”

Mark 10:21 “One thing you lack” is what Jesus said to the rich ruler .

Luke 10:42 “one thing is needful” is what Jesus said to Martha.

“One Thing I do”

John 9:25 “One thing I know” exclaimed the man who had received his sight back.

Psalm 27:4 “One thing have I desired of the Lord that will I seek after” testified the psalmist.

We can be too involved in
“*many things*” when the secret to
progressing is to concentrate on
“**one thing**”.

Principles to Grow towards Christ

1. Our Reach must exceed our grasp.
2. It is a bad thing to be satisfied spiritually.
3. When we stop learning, we stop growing, and when we stop growing we stop living.

Quote from George Goodman

Some have been betrayed into professing perfection or full deliverance, because at the time they speak they are happy and confident in the Lord. They forget that it is not a present experience that ensures fruit unto maturity, but a patient continuance in well doing.

To taste of the grace of God is one thing; to be established in it and manifest it in character, habit, and regular life, is another. Experiences and blessings, though real gracious visitations from the Lord, are not sufficient to rest upon, nor should they lead us to glory in ourselves,

as if we had a store of grace for time to come, or were yet at the end of the conflict. No. Fruit ripens slowly; days of sunshine and days of storm each add their share. Blessing will succeed blessing, and storm follow storm before the fruit is full grown or comes to maturity.”

*Question #2: How can we
intentionally position ourselves to
benefit from the example of others?*

(3:15-19)

Follow me as I follow Christ

- What kind of follower would a new Christian become if they imitated you?
- Believers cannot count on personal achievement and at the same time accept Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

Thrive Final Thought

As a life-long process God uses every event in our lives as opportunities to further develop His plan in and through us. Our “pressing on” unequivocally promises an eternity living in perfect joy in the presence of Jesus Christ.