

## LIVING THE LIFE GOD WANTS

Philippians 3:12-14

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### The Truth

12 I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me.

13 No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it,...

Matthew 5:48 But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.

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### On One Thing

13 ...but I focus on this one thing:

Luke 8:14 The seeds that fell among the thorns represent those who hear the message, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life. And so they never grow into maturity.

Luke 10:41 But the Lord said to her, "My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details!

42 There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her."

Matthew 6:33 Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

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### The Past

13 ...Forgetting the past

Romans 8:1 So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

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### My Thoughts

13 ...and looking forward to what lies ahead

Matthew 6:21 Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

Ephesians 4:21 Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him,  
22 throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception.  
23 Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes.

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### For The Prize

14 I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

1 Timothy 6:11 But you, Timothy, are a man of God; so run from all these evil things. Pursue righteousness and a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness.  
12 Fight the good fight for the true faith. Hold tightly to the eternal life to which God has called you, which you have declared so well before many witnesses.

2 Timothy 4:6 As for me, my life has already been poured out as an offering to God. The time of my death is near.

7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.

8 And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.

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### Keep Progressing

15 Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you.

16 But we must hold on to the progress we have already made.

1 Timothy 4:15 Give your complete attention to these matters. Throw yourself into your tasks so that everyone will see your progress.

16 Keep a close watch on how you live and on your teaching. Stay true to what is right for the sake of your own salvation and the salvation of those who hear you.

Titus 2:12 And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God,

13 while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed.

2 Corinthians 13:11 Dear brothers and sisters, I close my letter with these last words: Be joyful. Grow to maturity. Encourage each other. Live in harmony and peace. Then the God of love and peace will be with you.