Complete Joy

Week 10 - Pressing On

Transition: In last week's text, Paul exhorted the Philippians to place their confidence in Christ rather than religious credentials. He showed that true righteousness comes from Jesus and not anything that we can accomplish.

Check Point: Would anyone like to share something they worked on from last week's discussion?

Context: In this week's text, Paul admits to the Philippians that he hadn't reached perfection in his journey with Jesus but was excited about the day when he would be. He resolved not to let the past hinder him from forward progress in his faith.

Opening Questions:

- What do you tend to focus on most when it comes to personal growth, how far you've come or how much further you have to go?
- How do you typically respond when you thought you had something mastered but realized you had much more to learn?

Scripture/Storying: Philippians 3:12-16

Discipleship Questions:

- What is the Holy Spirit teaching you through this story? How does it impact the way you think and live?
- What past events in your life may hinder spiritual growth now? Why do you think it would be important to let go of those things in order to progress forward in your faith? How might you deliberately forget what lies behind you in order to focus your attentions on what God has ahead for you?
- Why does Paul emphasize pressing on rather than perfection? How can you intentionally press on in your relationship with Christ this week?
- What does spiritual maturity look like for you at this time in your life? How would you help a new believer cultivate spiritual maturity?
- What are you working toward in your relationship with Christ? How can you realign your focus on that goal when faced with discouragement?
- What does it mean to you that spiritual growth is more of a process rather than a destination you arrive at in this life? How can you remind yourself when you don't feel like you are making progress, that God is still at work?

Prayer time: Favor International

- Pray for the upcoming crusades—that God would empower each team with boldness, compassion, and the Spirit's anointing, and that many would encounter Jesus' transforming love and surrender to Him.
- Pray for Favor school students: Ask that they finish the year strong in their studies and grow in faith, character, and their relationship with Jesus.