

Message Discussion Guide Week of February 12, 2023

Message: Reset, Part 6: Living Forward Key Scripture: <u>Philippians 3:7-14</u> Preacher: Tom Parkinson

Message Highlights:

To live a great life, you need to start with the end in mind. Determine where you want to go, and then make decisions oriented toward getting you there. The problem for many of us is that we are so focused in the day-to-day that we never stop to ask, "Where is my life headed?"

In Philippians 3, Paul narrates what he discovered about the ultimate aim of life.

- Early in his life Paul had pedigree, power, and pharisaic passion. He gave all of this way to pursue one thing: knowing Jesus.
- To know Jesus is to have a personal relationship with the Lord of the universe.
- Paul gave up his freedom, wealth, power, and prestige to have something more valuable: a closer relationships with Jesus Christ.

Do you believe that life with Jesus Christ is better than life without him?

- We can be tempted to live a Christianity of convenience, were we follow Jesus when it works for our agenda.
- But in order to follow Jesus he needs to be our all in all.
- Knowing Jesus is the primary aim of our lives. When we know Jesus we can have better relationships, more hope, and more peace.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Do you feel more like you live with purpose and direction or like you have no real aim or direction? Why do so many people live without a sense of purpose?
- 2. If someone was to write your eulogy today, what would you want them to say about you? What values do you most want to define your life? What do you hope people will remember about you?

- 3. Read Philippians 3:7-14
 - What inspires you in these verses? What challenges you?
 - What does it mean to know Jesus Christ?
 - What is the relationship between knowing Jesus and experiencing suffering?
 - How can these verses inform the way you live?
- 4. Most of us intuitively agree that knowing Jesus is more important than anything else, but it can be hard to live that way. Have you ever lived a "Christianity of convenience?" What sacrifices might you need to make to prioritize your relationship with Jesus?
- 5. This is the final message in the *Reset* series. What have you learned in this series? What lesson will you take away and apply to your life?

Abundant Life Tip: Living a Godly life means beginning with the end in mind. What God wants most for you is to know Jesus. Making your relationship with Jesus your top priority allows you to make other important life decisions without losing track of your primary goal.