

PRESSING TOWARD THE MARK
Part Two: The Past Forgotten

Text: Philip. 3:13-14

I. A PARTICULAR _____ (vs. 13-14)

A. What Paul Did _____ Do:

- To count himself to have _____.
 - “Apprehend” (last week, vs. 12) = “to _____, grab, or take hold of something in a firm grip.”
- Application: If Paul couldn’t say that he had apprehended, we shouldn’t allow ourselves to become _____ when we can’t say that we have apprehended.
 - Two dangerous _____ on either side of the racetrack of pursuing Christ:
 - The ditch of _____
 - The ditch of self-_____

B. What Paul Did Do:

- “But this one thing I do” = “I _____” (vs. 14).
 - A present-tense, ongoing action describing a way of life;
 - The same word as “follow after” (vs. 12) = “to press toward a _____.”
 - Two other activities that should be taking place at the same time we are pressing (vs. 13) = “forgetting” and “_____.”

II. A PAST _____ (vs. 13A)

- “The things that are behind you” = the “turning around things”; the “_____ back things.”
- Forgetting the past means taking our _____ off the past and setting it instead on the future.
- Four things we need to forget about our past:

A. We need to forget our past _____ before we were saved.

- Our past pride, past status, past self-sufficiency and self-righteousness; the things we _____ in before we were saved.
- Our past life—the old _____, vices, and sinful pastimes of the old man; the places we used to go; those things we were proud of as unbelievers but are ashamed of now (1 Cor. 6:9-11, 2 Cor. 5:17).

B. We need to forget our past _____ and defeats as Christians.

- Those times we fell off the course, or fell flat on our faces, and failed God.
- Even believers can and _____ dsfail miserably, but we need to get back up and press on (Prov. 24:16).

- What it doesn’t mean to forget:
 - To have our _____ wiped clean.
 - To not _____ anything from past mistakes.
 - To leave past sins _____.
- What it does mean to forget = to make a _____ to turn around from past defeats and run the race anyway.
- **C. We need to forget our past _____ and disappointments.**
- There will be some rough sections on the racecourse for every runner in the race (Heb. 12:11-13).
- When we’re tempted to _____ on past difficulties or disappointments, we shouldn’t slow down or turn around but allow our trials to make us into faster and more experienced runners and press on.

D. We need to forget our past accomplishments and _____.

- Not that we should _____ or fail to be thankful for what God has done for us in the past.
- But that our past victories should propel us forward to _____ victories in the present.
- Application: Are your blessings _____? Are you growing in the here and now, or are you stagnating or standing still?

CONCLUSION

- Question: Are you _____ past things like you should be?
- Right now, 2021, is the right time to forget the past so we can press on in the present to win our future prize!