

# **THE WINNING CHRISTIAN**

*(Philippians 3:12-16)*

**(Philippians 3:12-16)** “Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. <sup>13</sup>Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you. <sup>16</sup>Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.” (NKJV)

**(Galatians 2:2)** “And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain.” (NKJV)

**(Galatians 5:7)** “You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?” (NKJV)

**(2 Timothy 4:7)** “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

**(Philippians 2:16)** “holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain. (NKJV)

## **I. THE WINNING CHRISTIAN IS A DISSATISFIED. (vs. 12-13a)**

**(Philippians 3:12-13a)** “Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on or, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. <sup>13</sup>Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended;” (NKJV)

**(Psalm 42:1-2)** “As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God. <sup>2</sup>My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?” (NKJV)

## **II. THE WINNING CHRISTIAN IS DEVOTED. (vs.13b)**

**(Philippians 3:13b)** “but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,” (NKJV)

**(Mark 10:21)** “Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.”

**(Luke 10:42)** “But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.” (NKJV)

**(John 9:25)** “He answered and said, “Whether He is a sinner *or not* I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.” (NKJV)

**(Psalm 27:4)** “One *thing* I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.”

**(James 1:8)** “*he is* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.” (NKJV)

## **III. THE WINNING CHRISTIAN HAS DIRECTION. (vs.13c)**

**(Philippians 3:13b)** “but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, (NKJV)

**(Hebrews 10:17)** “*then He adds*, “Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” (NKJV)

**(Romans 8:10)** “*There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.” (NKJV)

**(1 Timothy 1:12-17)** “And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting *me* into the ministry, <sup>13</sup> although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief. <sup>14</sup> And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> This *is* a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. <sup>16</sup> However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. <sup>17</sup> Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, *be* honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.” (NKJV)

#### IV. THE WINNING CHRISTIAN HAS DETERMINATION. (vs. 14)

(Philippians 3:14) I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (NKJV)

(John 15:5) “I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.” (NKJV)

#### V. THE WINNING CHRISTIAN HAS DISCIPLINE. (vs. 15-16)

(Philippians 3:15-16) “Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you. <sup>16</sup>Nevertheless, to *the degree* that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.” (NKJV)

(1 Corinthians 9:24-27) “Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain *it*. <sup>25</sup> And everyone who competes *for the prize* is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a perishable crown, but we *for* an imperishable *crown*. <sup>26</sup> Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as *one who* beats the air. <sup>27</sup> But I discipline my body and bring *it* into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.” (NKJV)

(1 Corinthians 9:24-27) “Don’t you realize that everyone who runs in a race runs to win, but only one runner gets the prize? Run like them, so that you can win. <sup>25</sup> Everyone who enters an athletic contest goes into strict training. They do it to win a temporary crown, but we do it to win one that will be permanent. <sup>26</sup> So I run—but not without a clear goal ahead of me. So I box—but not as if I were just shadow boxing. <sup>27</sup> Rather, I toughen my body with punches and make it my slave so that I will not be disqualified after I have spread the Good News to others.” (God’s Word Translation)

(Hebrews 12:1-2) “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (NKJV)



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