



RCC Phoenix – 5.2.21 – Philippians (Week 12)

Philippians 3:12-14 NLT

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. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, 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. The Grace to _____

Definition of Epilanthanomai (Forgetting):

_____, no longer caring for, given over to oblivion

We forget so we are _____ to run forward and look ahead to what God is calling us to.

Forgetting the past also doesn't mean we discard the _____ we learned from those experiences. It does mean we need to stop being preoccupied with them.

Regret is trying to walk _____, backwards.

2. _____ Attention

What is the "Heavenly Prize" Paul refers to in v14?

Acts 17:27-28 NLT

"His purpose was for the nations to seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us. For in him we live and move and exist. As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'"

The prize is _____, a relationship with our Creator, a life of purpose and eternity with God Almighty.

Believers in Christ should keep the Heavenly Prize in _____ every day and in every effort.

3. The _____ Before Us

Definition of "Agon" (Race):

Contest, _____ conflict.

- _____ – Runners pay attention to what they consume.

Ephesians 4:17-24 NLT

“With the Lord’s authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity. But that isn’t what you learned about Christ. Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.”

Believers in Christ need to be _____ about what we consume.

Lust, impurity and darkness will _____ impact our ability to run the race that God has set before us.

Marathon Runner Des Linden:

“Before running a marathon I recommend eating bland food. You want food for function not for fun.”

Runners understand that the temporary pleasure of the improper diet fades and hinders their pursuit of the goal.

- _____ Endurance – Runners understand they will deal with pain.

The Greek word “Agon” is the root of our English word _____.

Believers in Christ should not be _____ when we experience pain.

John 13:33 NLT

“I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”

Enduring _____ and pain is part of the Christian walk.

Romans 8:18 ESV

“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.”

- _____ Hurdles – Runners have to overcome their own thoughts

Marathon Runner Des Linden:

Run with friends or training partners... Enjoy being outside; it’s one of the best things about running.”

Running the Race God has set before us with others helps us _____ destructive thoughts.

_____ the _____.