

# Philippians 3:12–4:1

## Press onward to the heavenly goal

*(The People's Bible, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon, pages 74-85)*

### Look

Verse 12      *“Not that I have already obtained all this.”* Though Paul had received God’s righteousness through faith in Christ, Paul recognized he was still a sinner who needed to press on toward holy living.

### Discuss

1. From the standpoint of where he presently stood, how did Paul view his life and his goal?
2. How did Paul address you and me in regard to our present level of insight and dedication to reaching our goal? Do you find comfort in his words? If so, explain why.
3. Paul encourages us to model ourselves after those who live according to the pattern he gave us. Who are we to avoid?
4. What contrast does Paul strike between the people he describes in verses 18 and 19 and us?
5. What will Jesus someday do to our mortal bodies?

### Apply

6. What value do we find in the lives of God’s people, especially in those of the mature Christians who have weathered life’s storms, who have shaped their lives around God’s Word and will, and who have been blessed by the Lord with a rich measure of spiritual insight?
7. Paul urges us to stand firm in the hope we have. How can we best prepare ourselves to run the race to eternal life?

*Paul encourages us to press on toward the goal of eternal life, which God has placed before us.*