

Taking a Year End Inventory

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Text: Philippians 3:12-16 (NIV)

¹²Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Introduction

On our spiritual journey, we have not yet arrived at where God wants us to be in the future, but we are not where we were this time last year.

Notice the important *steps* Paul models for us in taking a spiritual inventory.

- I. We begin with a realistic evaluation of the past (v.12-13a).
 - A. Our spiritual journey will always be progressive in this life.
 - B. Our purpose is inseparably linked to our relationship with Jesus Christ.

- II. We follow through with the pursuit of the unattained goal (v.13b-14).
 - A. It is the anticipation of what will be that keeps us reaching forward.
 - B. It is the “call from heaven” that fuels our passion to reach the prize.

Conclusion

These simple the *steps* Paul gives us in taking a spiritual inventory can help us to remain on our heavenly course until we reach our destination.