** philippians – Part 3**

**Joy’s Focus**

**November 15, 2015 Pastor John Raymond**

**1. Focus on your** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **in Christ.**

# Philippians 3:1, “Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith.”

# 1 John 5:4, “4For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.”

**Philippians 3:7,** “I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done.”

**2. Focus on your** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **with Christ.**

**Philippians 3:8-10,** **8**Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ **9**and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God’s way of making us right with himself depends on faith. **10**I want to **know Christ** and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, **11**so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!”

**3. Focus on your** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **in Christ.**

**Philippians 3:13-14,** “**13**I **focus on this one thing**: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, **14I press on** to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.”

# James 1:2-3 (NLT), “2When troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. 3For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.”

**4. Focus on your** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **in Christ.**

# John 15:8, “My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.”

**Philippians 3:18-19,** **18**For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose **conduct** shows they are really **enemies of the cross** of Christ. 19They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth.”

# 1 John 2:15-17, “15Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. 16For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. 17And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.”

**5. Focus on your** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **with Christ.**

**Philippians 3:20,** **20**But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.”

**Hebrews 11:10 & 16,** “**10**Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God…**16**They were looking for a better place, a heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.”

**1 Peter 1:8,** “Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.”

* What’s my spiritual take-away? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* What’s my next action step? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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