



WEEK 5 DEVOTIONAL

WORTHY: Living Your Best Life NOW

RECEIVE

Slowly. Prayerfully, read and/or listen to Philippians 3:15–21, in two different translations: NIV and NLT or two of your favorites. Before and after each reading, pray to ask the Spirit of Christ to shape you through what you are reading.

REFLECT

1. Restate in your own words the three commands Paul gives us in the opening three verses of this passage.
2. What does Paul mean when he says “let us hold true to what we have attained”? What character is Paul calling them to? What have they “attained”? What comes to mind for you personally as you read this? What are you being called to be true?
3. Paul draws a number of contrasts between those who walk as enemies of the cross (verse 19) and those who walk like Paul (verse 20). Talk or journal the contrasts Paul makes. What do you discover that is helpful in the flow of your daily life?
4. How does it look (think in very practical terms) to live your life here and now as a citizen of heaven? How does it make you feel that God considers you a citizen of heaven here and now?
5. Paul says the enemies of the cross of Christ have their minds “set on earthly things.” Obviously, we all have to think about getting an education, earning a living, finding a spouse, caring for our family and taking care of our possessions. What is the difference between having a mind “set” on these things versus just thinking about them to be responsible?

6. Paul concludes in verse 21 with “by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to himself” which links to the next verse “Therefore stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved”. Read Ephesians 1:19. How do you imagine the Power in your life today?
7. As we seek to follow Jesus, are there places we have grown complacent and where we look more like the “enemies of the cross” vs. citizens of heaven? Take a moment and ask God to show you if there are places in the contrast above that He wants you to consider today. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom, balance, and then be honest with yourself as you listen, pray and live in response.

RESPOND

Respond by prayerfully journaling through these two questions:

1. Who am I following as an example of a life lived worthy – a life that looks like Jesus? Take a next step and encourage this person(s) and let them know how helpful their faithfulness is to you. Send a note, a text, or take them out for coffee.
2. How well am I setting an example of this way of life for others?

RESOURCES

- Great, short video [overview of Philippians by The Bible Project](#).

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 3:15–21 | New International Version

¹⁵ All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. ¹⁶ Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

¹⁷ Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. ¹⁸ For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Philippians 3:15–21 | New Living Translation

¹⁵ Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you. ¹⁶ But we must hold on to the progress we have already made.

¹⁷ Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example. 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. ¹⁹ They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth. 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. ²¹ He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.



