

Fellowship Group Homework & Discussion

Getting Started

1. Why do you like being in a fellowship group?
2. What impacted you the most from last Sunday's sermon?

Going Deeper

3. People's reactions to their past includes: pretending it does not exist, minimizing its impact ("it wasn't that big of a deal"), wallowing in it or dealing with it so that Christ's power may be expressed in weakness. Which of these four have you tended to fall into?
4. People who focus on the past are living in their glory days. Part of the assumption in this is that all positive impact is in the past or will only come if we can return to the past.
 - How have you been focused on the past?
- Read Philippians 3:12-16. What does it mean to "press on" for a person who is focused on the past?

5. People who are paralyzed by the past have experienced great failure that makes them feel disqualified for present and future impact for God.
 - Have you or somebody you know been paralyzed by the past? What caused this?
 - What does it mean to "press on" for a person who is paralyzed by the past?
6. People who are influenced by the past allow the negative events from their past to dictate their present and future actions, often in a desire to avoid repeating their past pain.
 - How have you been negatively influenced by the past?
 - What does it mean to "press on" for a person who is influenced by the past?
7. People who are discouraged by the past are sick of their constant failures to make spiritual progress and are tempted to give up or to coast in the remainder of their Christian life.
 - How have you been discouraged by the past?
 - What does it mean to "press on" for a person who is discouraged by the past?
8. For questions 4-7, which one do you struggle with the most? How do the following verses inform your desire to press on?
 - 1 Timothy 4:7-10
 - 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
 - Hebrews 12:1-2

9. A key purpose of our Fellowship Groups is to provide accountability.

To help with that, discuss the following questions:

- Have you been making it a regular priority to attend a Sunday morning worship service?
- Have you been faithful in making Fellowship Group attendance a top priority?
- Are you praying regularly for the members of your Fellowship Group?
- Are you caring for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those in your Fellowship Group?
- Are you taking steps to become more transparent with your Fellowship Group?
- Are you serving regularly in one area of ministry, preferably in your area of giftedness?
- Are you maintaining your Oikos list?
- Are you praying regularly for your Oikos list?
- What have you done this last week to reveal God to at least one member of your Oikos?



Passionate Partnership
Part 15 — “Attain What You Already Have”
Philippians 3:12-16
August 28, 2011

I. The Goal: I Want to Know Jesus

II. The Tension: I Am Not There Yet!

III. The Method: I Press On

IV. The Necessity: Forget What Lies Behind

A. Focused on the Past

B. Paralyzed about the Past

C. Influenced by the Past

D. Discouraged by the Past