

TO GO

1. Describe an episode from your life when you were “feelin’ it”. What were the circumstances? What brought you joy?
2. Consider another time in life when you were forced to come to grips with your own lack of perfection. How did you handle it? What emotions did you have? How did your situation challenge your beliefs?
3. Read Philippians 3:2–11. What is the context in which Paul writes. How does he contrast a life based on works with a life based on grace? What do you find most striking about Paul’s perspective on grace?
4. Read Philippians 3:12. To what is he referring when he says, “Not that I have already obtained this”? Why is that important? What does Paul mean by the term “perfect”? Why do you think he feels the need to acknowledge the process at this point in his letter? How does he respond to his lack of perfection?
5. Read Philippians 3:12–14. How can we apply Paul’s description of forgetting what lies behind and straining toward what lies ahead? Why is this so hard to do sometimes? Why is it essential to accept Christ’s work on our behalf in the process?
6. Read Philippians 3:15. What encouragement does Paul give to those who are still working out some of the details of their theology? Why is this critical as we serve together in community?
7. Read Philippians 3:16. How can you “hold true to what (you) have already attained”? After reflecting on this, take some time to prayerfully confess to God those things that you have “let go of” when it comes to being in Christ. Then, invite him to renew your sense of identity and purpose. Thank him for the grace that He promises to supply along the way!