

PIVOT – Uncompromising Flexibility

Principle #7 – Get a spiritual coach, but choose wisely Phil 3:17

‘Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us.’

Three Qualities of a Poor Coach 3:2, 18-19

- They see themselves as having **spiritually arrived!**
- They see themselves as being above **suffering** and **hardship** for Christ!
- They see themselves as worthy of **physical blessings** and **prosperity** from God!

Three Qualities of a Godly Coach 3:1-16

- 1) They never fully trust in **themselves** vs. 2-6
 - Focus = authentic **worship**, promoting **Jesus**, but don’t trust the **flesh** vs. 2-3
 - Paul’s **positive** pedigree vs. 4-6
 - He thought these actions would gain him God’s grace!
WRONG!
- 2) They value **Christ** most of all; there’s not even a **close second!** vs. 8-11
 - Look at Paul’s passionate words
 - He doesn’t claim **perfection!** But this is his **goal** vs. 12
- 3) They are authentically **humble** yet also **forward** moving! vs.12-16
 - Realistic about his **personal spiritual race** vs. 12
 - Not allowing the past **failures** to define the **future** vs. 13
 - Driven to keep moving forward until **called home** vs. 14
 - Let’s all have this drive and do it **together** vs. 15-16

Auburn Grace Community Church – June 14th, 2020

Life Group Discussion Questions – June 14, 2020

Philippians 3:13-14; *‘Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.’*

QUICK REVIEW

1. Has there ever been a spiritual mentor who coached you in some way in your faith journey? Describe a time when you may have said or done something to disappoint them. How do you think they felt?
2. Read Philippians 2:12-13. What does it mean to “work out your salvation?” Are you able to say that growing in your faith is a team effort? Explain.

MY STORY

1. What are some of your life’s greatest accomplishments? Did they serve to make you want to do more? Is it wrong to feel a strong sense of fulfillment in your achievements?
2. When have you been in a rush to learn something new? What was driving you to learn it so quickly? Discuss what happens in learning when there is not enough repetition. How does this apply to your faith journey and spiritual disciplines?
3. What kind of actions might someone take who is pressing on for holiness? How can you press on for this in your own life? Why is it important to forget what is behind you in life?

GOING DEEP (read Philippians 3)

1. Why would Paul set himself up as our example? Isn’t this self-centered? Isn’t Jesus enough of an example?
2. It is very easy for a believer to become complacent, especially if they’ve been saved for a long time. What are some things that a long-time believer can do to press on that they have not considered before? How does humility affect new endeavors? How can we continually renew our passion for holiness?
3. Is there a mistake in your life that you are constantly reliving and is holding you down? How does it impede what God has for you today? How does authentically taking it to God allow you to finally move forward?
4. There is no higher calling than to please God. As a group, make a “Pleasing God To-Do” list and put them into practice. Discuss how well you did the next time you meet. Focus on the victories and celebrate what God has done in you.

PUTTING IT TOGETHER:

1. What do you think are some of the challenges to living out each point?
2. Which of the above teaching points are most important for **you** to remember?