

Maturing In Christ

Philippians 3:15-21

1. Living Up To What Is Known As True Vs. 15-16

Since we are in Christ, let us hold on to what we know as true and continue to look to God for clarity in how to live in gospel unity.

Questions:

- If you think differently, “God will make clear to you”. What differences does God want us to encourage within the church? What differences does God want us to reconcile within the church?
- When there is a difference of an opinion, what approaches will cause disunity within the church?
- Paul’s concern is that the church manages those differences by turning to God for guidance. This requires everyone in the community to lay their ideas, hopes, and convictions before God openly, as “God’s Will” can be discerned. Is this your approach to handling potential disunity?
- Our excuse can be, “I still have so much to learn, and I am not experienced enough”. Paul challenges us to live up to what we already know and live out what we have already learned. Is there anything keeping you from living out what you have already attained? If so, what is it?

2. Learning From Those Who Model Life In Christ vs. 17

To live in unity as a church family is to learn from dedicated believers who obey God and seek His will so that the church may grow in spiritual disciplines and in their submission to Christ’s daily rule.

Questions:

- The life of a Christian involves learning from others. Jesus instructed us to make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). Paul also told us to learn from others (Philippians 3:17). Who are you currently learning from and what are you learning?
- Paul wrote to his son in the faith, Timothy about discipling others. (Read 2 Timothy 2:2). Are you at a place where you can start investing your life into someone else’s life? If you are, what does that look like? If you’re not, what steps do you need to take to begin discipling someone?

3. Life In Christ- Thinking & Priorities vs. 18-21

The way we choose to think and the priorities we choose to emphasize will lead us to either live as enemies of the cross of Christ or live out our citizenship that is in heaven. To Live for Lord Jesus Christ is to re-orient ones thinking and priorities.

Questions:

- Paul reminds us that our citizenship is in heaven. What happens when we begin to get too comfortable on earth and forget to focus on our eternal citizenship?
- Apostle Paul is a man who understood citizenship. He was born a Jew but held Roman citizenship. How does one be a citizen of earth, while being a citizen of heaven? What is the right approach?