

Do You Need to Grow Spiritually?

Philippians 3:12-16

I. The way to know if you need to grow spiritually (v.12)

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1. Paul had not obtained his spiritual goals.

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Not that I have already obtained this (v.12a).

“the word *this* refers to the goals he described in vv.10-11.

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that I may know him and the power of his resurrection (v.10)

2. Paul was not perfect.

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*Not that I have already obtained this
or am already perfect (v.12)*

*I press on to make it my own, because
Christ Jesus has made me his own. (v.12b)*

*I press on to make it my own, because
Christ Jesus has made me his own. (v.12b)*

*I press on to take hold of that for which
Christ Jesus took hold of me. (NIV)*

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Christ Jesus has made me his own. (v.12b)*

*I press on to take hold of that for which
Christ Jesus took hold of me. (NIV)*

*I press on to possess that perfection for
which Christ Jesus first possessed me.
(NLT)*

*You did not choose me, but I chose you
and appointed you so that you might go
and bear fruit—fruit that will last (John
15:16a, NIV)*

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. (Rom.8:29-30)

Jesus said, *I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last.*

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God, the Father said, *For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son.*

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. (Eph.2:8-9)

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Eph.2:10)

to bear fruit – fruit that will last (John
15:16a)

to be conformed to the image of his Son
(Rom.8:29)

*for it is God who works in you, both to will
and to work for his good pleasure.*

(Phil.2:13)

II. The way to respond when you get serious
that you need to grow spiritually (vv.12-14)

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II. The way to respond when you get serious that you need to grow spiritually (vv.12-14)

v.12, *I press on to make it my own.*

v.13, *straining forward to what lies ahead*

v.14, *I press on toward the goal for the prize*

For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. (Gal.5:17)

Live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. (Gal.5:16)