

*Philippians 3:8-16* Sunday, March 17, 2024

**CONTEXT**

- Several themes run through the book of Philippians
  - **Joy** ➤ the things that can **steal** our joy and how to **avoid** them.

- **Mind** ➤ reference to **attitude** –  
16 mentions of mind

Joy = **change** of mind/attitude

*Chapter 3* ➤ “**Confidence** in the Flesh”  
and “Whatever **gain** I had” can often steal  
our joy if not put in its proper place.

## Straining Toward the Goal

- v. 12 – **Dissatisfaction** ➤ healthy longing  
for more with Christ
- I **press on** to make it my own.

## Straining Toward the Goal

- v.13* – **Devotion** ➤ We can get distracted
- *vs. 7 & 8* ➤ Loss of **all things** to know Christ
- **Forgetting** ➤ Still Present, No **Influence**

## Straining Toward the Goal

- vs. 12-14* – **Direction** ➤ Forgetting what lies behind. I **press on**
- Press on ➤ Intense endeavor

## Straining Toward the Goal

*vs. 15–16* – **Determination** ➤ “hold true to what we have attained”

- What we get is Christ.
- attained not **obtained** (Haggai 1)  
mature/perfect (*vs. 12/15*)
  - mature (**perfect** to strive towards Christ (**perfection**))



I **press on** to make it my own, because  
Christ has made me **His own**.