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# **NEXT** STEPS

Whether you are new or have been at Crossroads since the beginning, you can get more information about our church or talk with a Pastor at Next Steps. We would love to connect with you today and help you take the Next Step in your spiritual journey.





# NEW HERE

If this is your first time with us, Welcome! We have a gift for you. Just take the info card from the seatback in front of you, fill it out and drop it off at the New Here kiosk in the Lobby. We will also donate one dollar to one of our local mission partners in your honor just for being with us today.





#### **CHRIS STANDRIDGE - COMMUNITIES PASTOR**

**NOVEMBER 28, 2021** 

Joy-Full: The Focus of Joy Philippians 3:12-21

1		you haven't	
	Philippians 3:12-13a		
2		the gift of	_ and
a passion for			
	Philippians 3:13b-14		
	Romans 13:11-14		
3		yourself to	_
	Philippians 3:17		
	1Corinthians 4:14-16	;	
4		a kingdom-living	
	Philippians 3:20-21		
	Colossians 3:1-2		



For personal study, family study, or community group discussion

## CROSSROADSDEEPERSTUDY.COM

### Open:

- 1. Have you ever attempted a task that was so difficult and tenuous that it required an extreme amount of focus and determination to find success? What was it? How did you fare?
- 2. If you were to evaluate your spiritual life in this current season, would you say that it's focused or distracted? Why?

Read: Philippians 3:12-21

#### Discuss:

1. Paul continued in chapter 3 by admitting that he hadn't yet arrived at who Christ wanted him to become.

(Philippians 3:12-13a) In what ways have you yet to arrive where God wants to take you? How has God been patient with you as you grow?

- 2. In verse 13 Paul talks about the one thing he did: "forgetting what lies behind..." Paul not only chose to forget where he failed, but he kept short accounts on his successes as well. What are some hurts and failures you need to forget and leave in the past? (Romans 13:11-14) What are some successes you need to let go of in order to move forward into what God has next for you?
- 3. What is the difference between a first-generation and a second-generation Christian? What would it look like if the second generation of Crossroads approached God's mission for this church and the advancement of the Gospel like the first generation did? What would that require of you?
- 4. Paul invited the Philippians to join in imitating him and to follow the examples of others who are faithful to Christ. (Philippians 3:17) Express the benefits that can come from following in the footsteps of more mature Christians. Do you have a Christian example who has given you life access whom you can imitate? Have you ever invited anyone to imitate you as you follow Christ? Why or why not?
- 5. How does understanding that our citizenship is in a heavenly Kingdom beneficial to a Christian living in this earthly kingdom? Do you think enough or too much about your citizenship in heaven? How does this mindset show how you're spiritually healthy or unhealthy?

### Pray:

Pray that you would be singularly focused on the mission God has for you in the world; that you would be so compelled by the Gospel and the Kingdom of God that you would set aside the worldly distractions keeping you from finding the joy that stems from fixing your gaze upon Christ and Christ alone.