



## Philippians | What does it mean to be a mature Christian?

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### Reflect + Discuss

- Have you ever set a goal for your life and worked hard to see it through? What was your goal and how did that go for you?
- Read Philippians 3:1-6. Paul contrasts putting confidence in the flesh and confidence in Christ. Can you think of examples of things that you are prone or tempted to put your confidence in rather than in Christ? (i.e. profession, sport, family, finances, security, etc.). How can we move towards a place of putting our confidence in Jesus?
- Read Philippians 3:7-9. What do you consider to be assets or most valuable things in your life? (i.e. your appearance, relationships, intelligence, achievement, reputation, etc.). How can intimately knowing Jesus affect the way we view the things that were once most valuable to us?
- Read Philippians 3:10. Each of us is being shaped by something. Can you think of an area in your life that God has shaped you? Have you experienced God shape you through a time of suffering? Is there an area of your life that you long to be shaped by Christ?
- Read Philippians 3:11-16. Just like Paul, we are all on a journey of spiritual maturity. How important is spiritual development in your life? What is a goal you have for your own spiritual growth? What are practical next steps we can take to elevate the goal of becoming more like Christ?

### Pray

- Pray that God will help us to be shaped more and more by Jesus. Pray that we will be molded by the faithfulness of Jesus and that it will impact every area of our lives. Pray that we would desire to be connected to Christ in deeper ways as we mature in faith.

### Next Steps

- Invest time in memorizing Paul's prayer, which is Philippians 1:9-11. Make a plan to memorize these verses on your own, or with your group.
- Check out the [resources page](#) for links to several Bible reading plans and other helpful tools. Explore other opportunities for growth and transformation by checking out [courses](#) for the fall.