

## Sunday 26 July 2020

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**Bible reading:** Philippians 3 vv. 8–14 (English Standard Version)  
Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith – that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

### **DEVOTION: What's Your Next Move?**

**T**hings are starting to take shape in our life right now. Shops are trading again. Bars, restaurants and other leisure places are welcoming people back. People have found out when or if they have jobs to go back to. Schools seem to be having a September start. Life for nearly everyone is looking more predictable.'

Why am I saying all of this? It's easy for us in this time of a gentle easing back into life of a sort of 'pre-COVID routine' for us to forget what were really called to do and be as Christians. We can

right now be prone to simply 'go with the flow' and see where things go. We can even begin to make plans for our future, forgetting just how fragile these can be (as dramatically seen in recent months). We can also forget all of the problems that happened before COVID which are still issues for the future, such as the many legal cases brought against Christians that had been put in hold or the deaths of Christians around the world that are still taking place.

Let us not forget the problems as we strain forward with God, since we are called to actively strive forward in our relationship with God as we seek to be more holy. That's what Paul is saying here to the church in Philippi. As such, we do need to keep pressing forward 'toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.'

***So what's your next move?***

***William Windess***