

Eye on the Prize
Philippians Chapter 3

Praise & Worship: Keep on Running - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OOFcwMd4YME>

Running the Race - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hooihwqL1Q>

Scripture References: Philippians 3:1-11,12-16, Hebrews 12:1

Memory Verses of Power (MVP): I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 3:14 (NKJV)

Scripture Summary: Apostle Paul's letter to his friends in Philippi.

1. Paul says he was very smart, came from a good family, and was successful at his job. However, he says that all his past accomplishments are worthless when compared to the honor of following Jesus. (v. 4-11)
2. Paul says that he will keep running toward his new goal of knowing and becoming like Jesus so that he can claim his prize, being with Jesus forever in heaven. He will keep racing toward Jesus even when it is dangerous and challenging because his future prize makes his current hardships worth it. (v.12-14)
3. Paul encourages us, his friends, to have this same mindset. We should all run toward the goal of knowing and becoming like Jesus. The temporary pain we may feel will later be replaced with God's wonderful goodness forever. (v.15-16), (Hebrews 12:1)

The Lesson: Any athlete who wants to win a prize spends many hours training. They have to sacrifice their free time in order to prepare for the competition. Even competing is challenging and stressful. However, if they win a trophy or title, then all the hard work was worth it! Have you ever felt that way? Paul reminds us that we are not training or running to win a physical prize, but a priceless one we cannot see. Paul wants us to remember that if we persevere, our prize is being with Jesus forever. Being with Jesus means we don't have to be afraid of anything. It means we can abide in His love and care forever!

Discussion Thoughts:

1. Have you ever run in a race or competed in a competition? Did you train? How so?
2. How should we train as disciples of Christ?
3. What can you do to help you stay encouraged when racing for Jesus becomes difficult?
4. What is something that you enjoy doing, but could give up to follow Jesus more?
5. How do you feel about racing for Jesus? Why do you want to follow Him?

Encouragement: It's hard to display the fruits of the spirit all the time, it's hard not to get distracted by activities that seem more fun, but Paul encourages us by saying nothing in the world compares to the prize of knowing and being with Jesus. We must always remember that following Jesus, reading and obeying God's words, and spending time with Him is worth racing for. Many past followers of God show us that following Jesus is worth the race. (Hebrews 12:1)

Object Lesson: We Run for Jesus - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPmxXTfWOvg>

If we are racing to know Jesus, we must get rid of every distraction that would hinder us from knowing Jesus. What activity do you spend a lot of time doing? How can you spend more time with Jesus?

Prayer: Thank You, Jesus, for running the race of life with me. Please help me to trust you and always think of you first when I get tired of trying to do good. In Your Name, Amen

Eye on the Prize

Philippians 3:14

I PRESS ON
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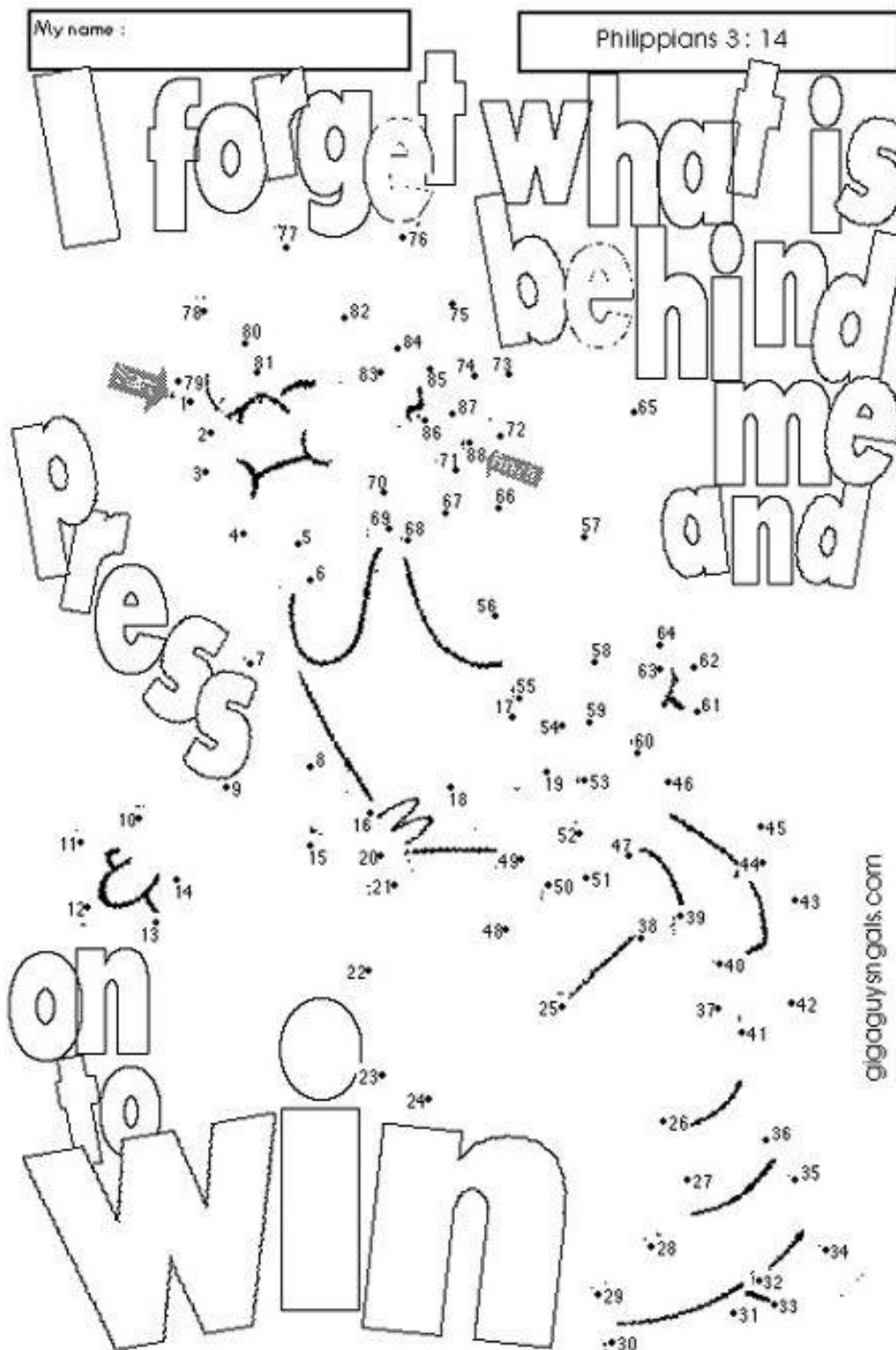
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God HAS
CALLED ME
HEAVENWARD
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PHILIPPIANS 3:14

Eye on the Prize

Philippians 3:14



I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 3:14 (NKJV)

Eye on the Prize

Philippians 3:14

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Philippians 3:14

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I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 3:14 (NKJV)

Eye on the Prize

Philippians 3:14

It's your turn! Draw a picture of you training for and winning a competition!

I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ
Jesus. Philippians 3:14 (NKJV)