



# Winning...now and forever!

February 28/March 1

## Philippians 3:12-16



### OBSERVE & REFLECT

*(This section is designed to encourage us to reflect on and observe the scripture and weekend sermon)*

#### READ Philippians 3:12-16

- ▢ Read the text a couple times. Try reading the text from different translations.
- ▢ What do you observe in the text? What jumps out at you and grabs your attention? What questions do you have from the text? Pay attention to any action words or phrases and observe what the implications are. What is God saying to you through His Word?
- ▢ Reflect on the sermon from the weekend regarding this passage. What aspects or truths from the sermon left an impression on you and why? What would it look like for you to live for Jesus in 2015?

### INVESTIGATE & APPLY

*(This section focuses on what the scripture has to say as we dig deeper into the Word. It is oriented to create discussion on the scripture)*

- ▢ How does the “race/winning” metaphor help you personally?
- ▢ Where else in Scripture does Paul use this metaphor of a race?
- ▢ Read several of these as a group. What are some wider or deeper learnings that come from these verses?
- ▢ What verse(s) has the Spirit pointed out to you from the message or this discussion? Share.
- ▢ Consider memorizing Philippians 3:12b, “*I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.*”
- ▢ What is God asking of you?

### NEXT STEPS

*(This section is how to ‘put the rubber to the road’ so to speak, and is created for us to grow deeper with each other as we process the implications of the text)*

- ▢ How will you keep pressing on toward the goal for the prize in Christ Jesus in this season of your life? Make it practical and share for accountability!

### OUR PRAYER/CONFESSION

We’re not saying that we have this all together, that we’ve arrived, that we have it made. But we are well on our way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for us...the Messiah who has made us his own. Don’t get us wrong: By no means do we think we are experts in all of this, but we’ve got our eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. We will not give up. We will not give in. We’re off and running, and we will not turn back. We will not let our past slow down our future.

So let’s keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of us have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear our blurred vision—we will see it yet! Now that we’re on the right track, let’s stay on it. Let us hold true. Let us live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us go forward! Amen.