



Reference: Philippians 3:7-14

Study Guide #1

October 23, 2016

"Greater Things Lie Ahead"

ICE BREAKER

Think of someone you know who has faced great obstacles and yet somehow overcame them. What qualities did they have that helped them to overcome those obstacles?

QUESTIONS

Our **Purpose** is to "Love God and Love People" and our **Mission** is "Impacting the City, Changing the World, Making Disciples and Multiplying Churches." Our **Vision** is to "Connect in Worship," "Grow in a Group," "Serve on a Team," and "Go!"

1) Last week we focused on the fourth step, "**We Will Go!**" How do you see yourself taking this step of discipleship?

2) What was Paul's situation when he wrote this letter to the church at Philippi?

3) Paul was a very successful religious man who trusted that by faithfully practicing his religion he would be made right with God. Read Philippians 3:7-11 to determine:

a. what Paul thought of his past **successes** without Christ:

b. what Paul came to treasure most for the rest of his life:

4) Paul had more than just one encounter with Christ. He describes how his life continued to be transformed in Colossians 3:1-4. What else took place in Paul's life?

Paul was highly respected and one of the most brilliant leaders of his day. He worked hard to persecute followers of Jesus by having them jailed, punished and even killed. He could have been paralyzed by **sin**.



5) Read 1 Timothy 1:12-17. What helped Paul realize and overcome the **sin** in his life?

6) How have you seen this at work in your life?

7) From the Old Testament, we learn that Joseph, a son of Jacob, was hated by his brothers so much that they sold him to be a slave. Years later, there was a famine and the brothers had to go to Egypt for food. Joseph was 2nd in command in Egypt but they did not recognize him and he tested them to see if they had changed. He eventually revealed his true identity to them. The brothers were afraid that Joseph would harm them. Read Genesis 45:4-5 and 7-8 and share how Joseph overcame the **suffering** he experienced.

8) Have you ever seen or experienced **suffering** or persecution that was unjust, but later God used it for your good and for the good of others?

9) Our **sorrows** over the past can paralyze us. Read 1 John 1:9 to learn how Jesus helps us in overcome sorrow.

10) In addition to not looking back, we need to do something else. What instructions does Paul give us in Philippians 3:12a.

11) What are three reasons for “pressing on?”

a. Read Philippians 3:12b:

b. Philippians 3:14:

c. 1 Corinthians 15:58: