

“Reach For It”

" 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, ..."

Philippians 3:13 (ESV)

The challenges of life can appear to be insurmountable. Regardless of how difficult the challenge may be, God want you to grow in the faith. However, growth can generate pain. Pain is often present because it involves stretching beyond the current condition. If you are growing emotionally, overcoming anger is the stretching of your emotions. If you are growing in your finances, the discipling of living with in a budget is the stretching that will lead to a stronger financial picture. If you are growing spiritually, moving through both criticism and praise comes with the stretching of your inner man to know that God grants new mercies every day. Growth has its challenges.

In today's text, the Apostle Paul reminds us grow in faith and as we grow there may be challenges but keep pressing forward. Don't consider the things of the past, just keep moving forward. Moving forward means maturing in your spiritual thinking and understanding. As you grow in the Lord, don't allow the past guilt of failures or resting on past successes pull you down. Both can separate you from God. The goal is to constantly reach toward the great expectations of God through love. You can do it...Reach for It!

One in Jesus,

Pastor Cheeks

