

We must take ownership for the pursuit of perfection that Christ has already purchased.

Point #1 – Own Your Position in Christ (vs. 12)

- Philippians 1:6,10
- Philippians 1:27,28
- Philippians 2:12-14

Point #2 – Own Your Progress in Christ (vs. 13-16)

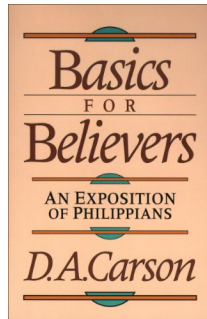
- Micah 7:19
- Philippians 1:6
- Matthew 25:23

Point #3 – Own Your Perfection in Christ (vs. 17-21)

- 1 Corinthians 11:1
- Matthew 28:18-20
- Matthew 16:24
- Romans 16:18
- Hosea 4:7
- Psalm 8:6

The highest priority in his life captivates his full attention and demands total concentration. The tyranny of urgent needs, the clamor of popular voices, the top news of the day all take a pale second place to the one overarching goal of Paul's life. All his thoughts, emotions, and decisions are focused on this fixed point: One thing!

Walter Hansen *Pillar New Testament Commentary: The Letter to the Philippians*



Recommended Reading:
Basics for Believers by Don Carson

Questions for Reflection:

1. Why do we need both passion and discipline to grow in spiritual maturity?
2. What would people who know you well say is your “one thing”?
3. What one change could you make in order to pursue the one thing that matters most?
4. In what ways is our church a little colony of the kingdom of Heaven?
5. How should the promise of Jesus’s return affect the way you live your life?
6. In whose draft are you seeking to follow? Have you thanked them?
7. Who is drafting behind you? Have you reached out to aid their growth?
8. What Christian books or literature are you reading to “think” like Paul?
9. In your walk with Christ, do you find a greater temptation to pride or despair? How can you apply the Gospel to that temptation when it occurs?

Adapted from *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Philippians* by Tony Merida & Francis Chan