

"The Fundamentals of Christian Maturity"

Philippians 3:12–16

23 September 2018

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Share a little about your personal growth in Christian maturity. What are some of the specific ways in which you can identify growth in maturity in your walk with Christ?

WORLDVIEW

2. "Show me a Christian who thinks he is perfect and I will show you a Christian who is out-of-touch with reality." Is this a fair statement?

How do we understand this in light of 1 John 2:1 ("My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin") and 1 John 3:6 ("No one who abides in him keeps on sinning")?

INTO THE BIBLE

3. What is "the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus"? The following texts might help you to answer this question.

Romans 8:28–30—And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

1 Corinthians 15:50–53—I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

2 Corinthians 5:1–5—For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

