

Keeping Our Eye on the Prize

Philippians 3:20

For our conversation (community, citizenship) is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ:

Foreword

Much has come to harm and ruination because of distracted driving. Many of us have experienced how quickly a sideways glance can cause our vehicle to drift or swerve. And some of us have undoubtedly had the fright of a vehicle drifting into our lane, jerking back into theirs, just in time for us to see them looking at their cell phone. But the most dangerous distraction of all is taking our eyes off the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13-15

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. 15 Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

Guard Against Being Otherwise Minded

1. Humbly remember we have not yet attained our reward.
2. Forget the distraction of the past.
3. Identify and press forward in the high calling of God in Christ Jesus in your life.
4. Yearn to obtain the prize for avoiding all distractions and focusing on God's will.
5. Ask God to show you any distractions from following His will.

Look Unto Jesus

Hebrews 12:1-4

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. 4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.

1. Jesus looked toward the joy of saving people.
2. Jesus was not distracted from enduring the cross and its shame or we would not be saved.
3. Others kept their focus and crossed the finish line into the joy of the Lord.
4. Lay aside anything that would distract you from heaven.
5. Diligent, persevering, patient faith is the strength of our focus.
6. Keep the model of Jesus ever before your eyes.
7. Acknowledge your devotion could cost you everything and accept it.