

Saturday & Sunday, January 20 & 21, 2018 - "Resolve Week 2 - Press On" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Ephesians Philippians 3:12-14, Philippians 3:1

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- One Word Challenge
  - Instead of a list of resolutions...asking God for one word to focus on for the year
  - This year → then year after year
  - How different will things be after 5...7...10 years
  - If it's easy, then that's probably not it
  - Who is God calling you share your word with? What does God have to say to you about the word?
- Philippians 3:1 (First sentence is end of chapter 2, next is beginning of chapter 3)
  - ...It is a safeguard for you
    - To keep you safe
    - Everything in ch. 3 helps us lean unto what God has for us in walking with Him
  - \*Salvation is a gift of God (no work, can't be earned)
    - But we participate in being transformed
    - Responding to God and accepting His invitation
    - The tension of striving
      - participating with God in the work of God in our life
      - "Spiritual vitality takes intentionality"
- Last week: What's leading your mind?
  - Knowing Christ
  - Our "words" for the one word challenge flow out of the principles from Philippians 3
- Philippians 3:12-14 "Straining toward the goal"
  - Paul has an accurate understanding of who he is spiritually (he has an amazing list of accomplishments but still says "I'm still a work in progress")
  - Press on
    - Athletic event word picture → keep running the race
    - Christian walk is a journey and a lifelong process
    - We have to have Self Knowledge and a knowledge of God to be able to keep going when it's hard, to press on
- Things can get in the way of knowing ourselves
  - Golden rule of relationships: Deal with your stuff
  - We're called to know ourselves and work on our own struggles and not the other
- If we're going to be like Jesus we have to A) Know what Jesus is like B) See where we aren't like Him
- Not who I used to be, but not who I am meant to be
  - Your one word will challenge you
  - But you have to stay with it, you have to press on
- One word → conviction
  - We have to "show up"
  - We have to join with what God is doing and put in some effort
- We are called to celebrate what God is doing without being prideful AND feel the pinch of conviction without being defeated

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. Has God given you a word for 2018? Talk about your word and what it means for you
2. How is God calling you engage with Him in seeing what the word means for you and your life?
3. When was a time when you felt like you were participating in God transforming you? What were some of the results?
4. How is your self knowledge? How is God trying to give you a more accurate view of yourself?
5. How does your knowledge of God need to grow in order to "press on"?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or message?

**\*\*15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

**Mon: Romans 16 Tues: Romans 17 Wed: Romans 18 Thurs: Romans 19 Fri: Romans 20**