

January 7/8 | January 14/15 | January 21/22

THE NEW YOU TRANSLATION

What's your life saying?



15 Playfair Road, Singapore 367987. | www.fgasingapore.org | FB: FGA Singapore | IG: @FGASINGAPORE



PART TWO 14/15 JANUARY 2017

INTRODUCTION

Each and every single one of us has, and will leave an impression on people that we have or will meet. Hence, the life we live presents a message to others around, be it good or bad, knowing or unknowingly, whether we want to or not. Hence this first series of 2017 allows us the opportunity to reflect and take stock of who we are becoming as a person, but more importantly, whether we are becoming the Christ-like person God would wants us to be.

In part 2, we took a look at Paul's goal in life. Paul said in Phil 3:13, "I press on toward the goal...". Paul pursued this goal with a passion and focus. What is this goal? It's not just a series of 'do' goals – plant churches, disciples people etc., he was focused on achieving a 'be' goal – to be more Christ-like. Paul was focused and clear about his goal. *Are you? Do you have 'be' goals for 2017?*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If you had asked your close friends, colleagues or family members how they felt being around you, what were some of the feedback you received?

If you had done the same exercise with God, what did He say about you?

2. There was a story once told of Mahatma Gandhi who was stopped by a journalist at a train station. The journalist wanted to get an interview with the famous man for his newspaper. Despite the journalist's persistence, Gandhi politely declined his questions and was about to board on the train to leave. Finally, the train was pulling out of the station with Gandhi on it, the journalist called out from the station platform, "Sir! Sir! Please give me your message for the people!" Gandhi smiled and shouted back, "*My life is my message!*"

Do you feel that your life message is clear? Can people around you see Christ in you? How clear is your life message?

3. Do a study on Phil 3:12-21. You can use the inductive bible study method below as a guide.
 - i. Posture your heart. Spend some time in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to be your teacher. Open your heart to the Lord to speak to you.
 - ii. Read the passage aloud

- iii. Ask some context questions of the passage:
 - What sort of writing is this? (a letter, a poem, a narrative etc?)
 - Are there any clues about the circumstances under which it was written?
 - What has happened so far in this particular book of the Bible?
 - iv. Some observation questions of the passage:
 - Are there any major sub-sections or breaks in the passage?
 - What is the main point or points?
 - What surprises are there?
 - What are the key words? What words or ideas are repeated?
 - v. Some meaning questions of the text:
 - How does this passage relate to other parts of the book?
 - How does the passage relate to Jesus?
 - What does this teach you about God?
 - How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?
 - vi. Some application questions of the passage:
 - How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?
 - Is there some attitude you need to change?
 - How does this passage call on you to change the way you live?
4. Paul's goal is to be more like Christ (Phil 3:12-15) and he desires for us to pursue christlikeness (Gal 4:19, Col 1:28). You may have DO goals for your life but do you have BE goals? What are your BE goal(s) for 2017?

WHAT WOULD YOU DO

If you are not clear of your life message, this exercise will help you. Write your own eulogy. At funerals, life becomes clear.

Imagine you are at your funeral, who will be there?

If you could determine what they would say, what would you want them to say?

- Spouse
- Children
- Co-workers/colleagues/bosses
- Friends
- Acquaintances
- God

Write out in short phrases, what you hope they will say. When you finish this exercise, it becomes crystal clear to you what success looks like.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"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, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil 3:13-14 ESV)