

NEW YEAR—NEW PERSPECTIVE

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Resolutions grow out of introspection. What is your personal perspective right now? Where are you headed with your life? Where are you in relationship to God and the Lord Jesus Christ?

The apostle Paul shares his perspective in Philippians 3:10-16. Paul was in his early sixties. He had been a member of the church of Christ for more than twenty-five years. At this time in his life, he is still on mission for the Lord. In the book of Philippians, Paul uses the personal pronoun “I” fifty-two times. In the text given above, he uses it nine times. In these verses Paul sets forth the following:

1. **His Goal:** To know Christ, v. 10. To experience life in Christ and with Christ.
2. **His Hope:** That I may attain unto the resurrection of the dead, v. 11. This means to experience the power of God in his own resurrection and to be able to go home to be with God.
3. **His Pursuit.** He followed after (steadily pursued) his mission, v. 12. Read Acts 9:15. Paul was apprehended by Christ to preach the gospel.
4. **His Mission.** v. 12. From the moment of Paul’s conversion, he began preaching Jesus Christ and Him crucified, Acts 9:20. He continued to proclaim Christ until the day he died.
5. **His Focus.** Paul said, “this one thing I do, v. 13.” Paul dismissed the past from his mind and focused on the present and future.
6. **His Effort.** Paul pressed toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, v. 14. What was the prize? Read II Tim. 4:6-8 to find out.

Paul desired that the saints at Philippi have the same mind as he expressed it in these passages (Phil. 3:15). Why not adopt Paul’s perspective for the New Year!