

**“Possessing True JOY”**  
**Philippians: A Book Study**  
**“Right Objectives Relentlessly Pursued”**  
**9/28/2008**

**Text: Philippians 3:12-16**

*“<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>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, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. <sup>16</sup>Only let us hold true to what we have attained.”(ESV)*

Five ideas emerge:

1. **THE KEY:** \_\_\_\_\_,

**NOT PERFECTION** – v.12-13

SO WHAT Q. – Are you making progress – some kind of deliberate progress in your faith-walk?

2. **THE PAST IS** \_\_\_\_\_

**....MOVE ON!** – v.13b

SO WHAT Q. – Have you dabbled in much but succeeded in very little?

3. **THE FUTURE**

\_\_\_\_\_ **...REACH FOR IT!** –  
v.14

SO WHAT Q. – Are you passionately pursuing some dream – a specific goal in life, for Christ’s sake? For what are you leaning forward?

4. **THE SECRET: A**

\_\_\_\_\_ **....MAINTAIN IT!** – v.15

5. **THE NEED: KEEPING A**

\_\_\_\_\_ **....TOGETHER** – v.16