

## Devotional

### TIME FOR SOME MOMENTUM!

*I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us. Philippians 3:12-14*

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When I first began my educational journey many years ago, the winds of change were faint. Every now and then a slight breeze would blow through but nothing strong enough to mess up my hair! It's much different today. Most educators feel a bit wind-blown, and others have been rocked by the tornado-like winds. Whatever situation you find yourself in, my guess is you may need a little boost of momentum to mature in your walk with Christ. Here is how you do it.

**Press On.** As educators, we know learning never stops. The same is true when it comes to spiritual maturity. Paul had a holy discontent when it came to knowing and serving Christ. He was all about striving to fulfill the purpose for which he was created. God has purposefully placed you where you are so others will come to know Him. You don't have to be perfect; you just have to maintain momentum toward spiritual growth. Maturity develops one day at a time. Galatians 5:22 says the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and self-control.

In what area can you grow this week? Take time to pray now.

**Let Go and Look Forward.** What grabs your attention as you prepare for another week? Are you frustrated or worried about something that happened last week? Paul tells us we need to let go of the past. It isn't that we forget what happened; we just don't let the past control our present. The enemy wants to stifle your momentum toward maturity by convincing you to carry last week's baggage into tomorrow. Don't do it. If you made a mistake, give yourself grace. If you hurt someone, repent and ask for forgiveness. If you didn't accomplish a task, set a priority for this week. Remember, God's mercies are new every morning. You can start tomorrow with a clean slate. Keep looking forward.

What is God asking you to let go of? Take time to pray now.

With a new week comes new opportunities. God is always at work around us. You will need to intentionally and purposefully press toward His purposes and His ways to maintain momentum in your spiritual journey. Every time you show love, kindness, gentleness, or patience toward others, you are storing up treasures in heaven. So, press on and keep your eyes heavenward, toward Jesus!

*Dear Lord, thank you for sending Jesus so that I don't have to run this race alone. Give me the momentum I need as I let go of yesterday and look forward to this week. Give me the desire and strength to do what pleases you. In Jesus name, amen. ©*