

# Ownership Creates Freedom

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Our Purpose: To be a community of believers where, no matter who you are, you can experience life change through Jesus Christ.

## The Struggle is Real

Struggles don't get easier; they just get more complicated.

### How do we struggle well?

*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.*

—Philippians 3:12 (ESV)

*Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.*

—Philippians 3:8-12 (ESV)

### What are we going to do with Jesus?

#### I'm not there yet.

*For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do*

*what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. 19 For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. 22 For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?*

—Romans 7:15-24

*“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.”*

—Philippians 3:13-14

There is a right way and a wrong way to struggle.

To yet again try to control the situation or the sin.

You either die a hero or live long enough to see yourself become the villain.

Push headlong into Jesus, and then keep pressing.

Sometimes the only way to break from one thing is to break free from everything.

Because He has made me his own.

*All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in*

*Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.*

*—Ephesians 1:3-5 (NLT)*

*“And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love. When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.”*

*—Romans 5:5-8 (NLT)*

God rescues the dirty.

The Gospel is not about you trying to own it. It's about that fact that Jesus already owns you.

*I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. Only let us hold true to what we have attained.*

*—Philippians 3:14-16 (ESV)*

Why don't we yearn? Why don't we long? Why don't we passionately pursue Christ in this way?

We can either chase after Him or be miserable!