

## **Paul With the Lid Off**

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### I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Philippians 3:12-14.
- B. Christians tend to keep the lid on their spiritual experiences.
- C. Christianity is ordinary people living the extraordinary life.

### II. Paul was “arrested” of Christ Jesus.

- A. Jesus stopped Paul from where he was going.
- B. Jesus can save us from all sorts of things that will not benefit us.

### III. Paul forgot the things that were behind.

- A. One of the sicknesses of Christianity is we live on the past victories.
- B. We must press on toward the goal.
- C. Paul was living in light of the prize of Jesus’ affirmation.
- D. Paul pressed on in light of the calling of his life.

1. He is called to heaven from heaven.

2. Christians with a sense of call press on.

E. Paul lived in light of the things ahead. (1 Corinthians 2:9)

F. Paul looked inward acknowledging that he had not laid hold of all that a Christian could obtain.  
A Christian should not be satisfied in his spiritual experience.

### IV. Paul pressed toward the mark. (2 Corinthians 4:9)

**Applications questions:**

1. When have you been “stopped” by God from where you were going? What did you learn?

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2. How can focusing on the past hinder us from our future goals?

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3. What goes should we continually be pressing on toward as Christians?

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