

RIVERSIDE ANGLICAN CHURCHES
QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION OR REFLECTION
Joy in Perseverance – Philippians 3:12-4:1

1. When are you most tempted to feel like you've 'made it' as a Christian?
2. Read *Philippians 3:12-17*. What is it that Paul wants to make his own? (You might need to read back)
3. What is it behind him that he wants to forget?
4. Why does he use phrases like, 'pressing on' and 'straining forward'? Is the Christian life really meant to be such a struggle?
5. What's the connection between being 'mature' and thinking 'this way'?
6. How will God reveal things to the mature?
7. How should we judge our own maturity? Have you increased in Christian maturity in the last 12 months?
8. Read *Philippians 3:18-4:1*. According to Paul, what are the motives of someone who walks in opposition to Jesus? Are these the motives you imagine for an opponent of the gospel?
9. What does Australian citizenship mean to you?
10. How is Heavenly citizenship similar?
11. What is the significance of the fact that we await the coming of one from our true home? Why are new bodies mentioned at this point?
12. How are the Philippians Paul's joy and crown? Is it good to be someone's joy and crown?
13. If your citizenship is in heaven how will that effect the way you live your life?
14. Why should you press on and strain forward if the price has already been paid? Why can we not just live as citizens of earth now, and then of heaven when we get to heaven?
15. How do we get to heaven? (Check with v12-13!!!)