



View

Epistles

Philippians 3.13-14

Greetings Mt. View friends,

I wonder if some of you have started going back to school in-person now? Or maybe you are still waiting for that to happen. Things are uncertain and always changing right now – which is really hard!

Do you remember Paul? That Christian guy I told you about who lived hundreds of years ago and was one of Jesus' earliest followers? He wrote lots of letters to the early Christian church to encourage them. In one letter to the Philippian people, he wrote:

"Beloved... forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus."

Sometimes Paul used a lot of words to say something pretty simple. He is basically saying that if we trust in God then we have what we need to keep going, especially when things are tough.



Did you know that Paul was thrown in prison several times for his beliefs? He was also in a shipwreck or two. And he was often bullied for his beliefs and his work.

But he kept going. What do you think helped him keep going through it all? Talk with your family about that for a minute.



Paul faced a lot of hard things in his life. But he believed that the love of Jesus Christ strengthened and empowered him to face anything.

I wonder, what is something difficult or scary you have faced recently?

Maybe it was starting school online this year that was really hard.

Maybe going back to school in-person scares you.

Maybe you haven't been able to see some of your family or friends because of Covid.

These are all hard things! So it's good that we have someone like Paul to remind us that with the love of Jesus in our hearts, we can face anything.

So keep going! Press onward! And remember... Christ strengthens you for all good and loving things.

Until next time, the love and strength of Jesus Christ be with you,

Pastor Bri