

Are we there yet?

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already received this, nor have I already been perfected, but I do pursue it with the possibility that I may take hold of it, because that is why Christ Jesus has already taken hold of me.

<sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have taken hold of this by myself, but the priority is: forgetting the things that are behind, and also stretching forward to what is ahead, <sup>14</sup> according to the guide-marks, I pursue towards the prize of God's upward calling of God in Christ Jesus.

**1. No, we are . . . . . there yet. 3:12a**

- Honest . . . . .
- Diligent . . . . .
- Optimistic . . . . .
- With God, everything is possible. Matt.19:26

**2. No, but we . . . . . a map. 3:12b**

- God has a . . . . . for my life
- God has a . . . . . plan  
(Ac.4:28, Rom.8:29,30, 1Cor.2:7, Eph.1:5,11)
- Predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son. Romans 8:29
- God has a . . . . . plan

**3. No, but we . . . . . on our way. 3:13**

- My . . . . .
- ...if you abide in Me... John 15:5
- My . . . . .
- I need to . . . . .
- I need to . . . . .
- Put off . . . . . put on... Eph.4:21-24
- I need to . . . . .

**4. No, but we are . . . . . there. 3:14**

- I have . . . . .
- Since we are... Hebrews 12:1
- I help . . . . .
- I expect the . . . . .

**Thought starters for personal reflection, or group discussion**

1. What was your longest journey, and how long did it take?
2. Read Philippians 3:12. Find "but" in the middle of the verse. What contrast does it introduce?
3. In the same verse, find why Jesus has got you. List a few reasons why you need Jesus with you for this journey.
4. What is the double priority in v13? Why do I need both; and why are they listed in that order?
5. How do those double priorities in v13 help me fulfill the perfection of v12?
6. Verse 14 reminds us we have guide-marks to help us stay on track. What is most helpful in keeping you on track?

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