

## Philippians The Joy of Knowing Christ

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## Following Paul's Example

Philippians 3:15-21 September 18, 2016 Pastor Bob Meissner

**Theme:** Paul emphasizes the need for progress in Christian living. A key component to that progress is following the right examples. He has highlighted Jesus as our prime example and also pointed to the lives of Timothy and Epaphroditus. Here he presents himself as an example to follow, not because he is perfect, but as one who continually reaches to see God's kingdom expanded. But along with good examples, he warns the Philippians that there are others that need to be avoided.

## **Outline**

- 1. Have the Right Practice, 3:15, 16
  - a. Those who are mature, v. 15
  - b. Be where you are, don't look back! v. 16

2. Focus on Godly Models, 3:17
a. Paul's Models
b. Following true models, v. 17
3. Recognize ungodly models, 3:18-19
a. Their aim
b. Their focus
4. Maintain a Healthy Focus, 3:20-21
a. Our Citizenship, v. 20
b. Our Benefits, v. 21
<u>Takeaway</u> : Paul could tell the Philippians to "follow me the way I follow Christ." This should be the standard we all strive for as Christians because we are all examples to someone.

Next Cove: September 25, 2016
Closing Exhortations
Philippians 4:1-9