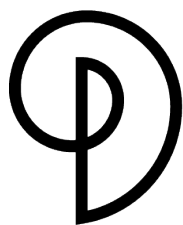


SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect

**NO
MATTER
WHAT...**

No Matter What ... Finish

November 12 & 13, 2022

As we near the finish line of this series, we will discover some insights on what it means to finish strong, to continue to run this race with passion, so that we reach the purpose that Jesus has called us to fulfill.

SCRIPTURE TEXT: PHILIPPIANS 3:12-16

Read the scripture text together as a group.

BACKGROUND INFO

The language of running is everywhere in the bible. And it's not just running for running's sake, but it's running for a purpose and with endurance. In the Hebrew scriptures, the prophet Isaiah reminds the reader that those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength and soar like eagles; they will run and not faint. In the Christian scriptures, Paul writes about running the race set out before us. In Philippians, Paul uses the image of running again to inspire Christ followers to keep at it, no matter what.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Paul's motivation: He knows he's loved.

- Re-read Philippians 3:12. What do you think is the "purpose that Jesus Christ has called [you] to fulfill and wants [you] to discover? What is your motivation to fulfill your purpose?
- Read 1 John 4:7-12. Share a story about a time that you received an act of kindness and chose to either "pay it forward" or "pay it back." What are some concrete ways you can "pay forward" the love God pours into you this week?

Paul's commitment: He's hyper-focused.

- Re-read Philippians 3:13. What Spiritual practices do you find effective for keeping your eyes on Jesus all along the way?

Paul's perspective: He's a work in progress.

- Re-read Philippians 3:14. In what ways are you a "work in progress?" In what ways is Prince of Peace a "work in progress?"

CHALLENGE: Lean into the future with everything you've got, knowing that sometimes it's going to seem like a sprint, and other times it's going to feel like a marathon. But no matter what, stay focused on God who is right beside you, cheering you on.