# A Magnificient Obsesssion

**Buddy Payne** · Philippians 3:7–15 · Series: **Christians Facing A Corrupting Culture**

## INTRODUCTION

- Those Christians in the first century were facing a terribly corrupt, perverse society.
- Because the Apostle Paul's change and the complete and utter devotion he had to his new master was a magnificent obsession.
- Christ will accept nothing less than a magnificent obsession.

## 1 Paul's Single-Minded Devotion: One Thing I Do

**Philippians 3:13; Ephesians 3:14–21**

- Can we get Paul's single-minded devotion? He said, There's one thing I do.
- What that means, beloved, is that everything else compared to the one thing means no thing.
- So when I make a decision about anything else, the one thing always guides anything else.
- When I read that passage, I know that with his help, his power working through me can do exceedingly abundantly above anything I ever dreamed of.
- Specifically, he can turn my pitiful efforts into a magnificent obsession.

## 2 So Devoted to the Word of God, Like Jesus

**Matthew 4:3–4; Acts 20:27–32**

- So I pray for congregations of saints, this one in particular today, who first of all are so devoted to the Word of God that they will be like Jesus.
- It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.
- Every time the devil tempted him, how did he respond? It is written. This is what God says.
- God has not changed what he said, folks, but men have changed what God said.
- And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

## 3 Pray to Your Father in the Secret Place

**Matthew 6:5–6; Revelation 3:20**

- But you, when you pray, go into your room. And when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place.
- Is it the pattern of your life, Christian? To be in a secret place with God.
- God wants to be with you in that secret place.
- Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with me.
- You're missing out, beloved, on the essence of Christianity if you don't have a personal, close, intimate, private relationship with the God of heaven.

## 4 The Pattern of the Life of Jesus

**Luke 5:16; Luke 22:39–41**

- While Jesus was on earth, did you know that every time you turn around, he's off by himself praying somewhere? That's the pattern.
- So he himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.
- The night before he picked the twelve apostles, he spent all night praying.
- If it is not the pattern of your life to be alone with Jesus and with the God of heaven, you're not following the pattern of Jesus.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **You'll leave this assembly this morning with the avowed purpose, there will not be a single day ever pass in my life again that I won't have time for the word of God and for private time with me and God alone ever again.**

MY NOTES