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HITTING THE BULLSEYE

As a youngster we had a dart board. Everyone seemed to enjoy throwing the darts, and occasionally someone would hit the bulls' eye. It required great skill to hit it. Practice helped those that did it. An occasional player like myself missed it most of the time.

Then my brothers had bows and arrows. They would shoot towards the bulls' eye with the arrows, and many times missed the mark, but occasionally hit the bullseye. I didn't fare as well. You would see movies from those days with Robin Hood and his merry men, that always hit the mark. Yet, even in real life it took practice. Hours of practice.

In Philippians 3: 14 the Apostle Paul shares that his life was loss until he met Jesus Christ. In verse 14 he said, ***"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."*** He was in a race, heading toward the "mark" – the bulls' eye, or crossing the finish line. He goes on to say in verse 15, ***"Let us therefore, as many as be perfect (Strong's G5046 – complete in labor, growth, mental and moral character, perfect, full age) **be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.**"*** He was saying that each of us are in a race, and we need to press towards the mark.

Pressing towards the mark does not come naturally any more than hitting the bullseye on a dart board. It takes practice. You work at it. The muscles have to be trained to aim correctly. For a runner, you must be in shape to run the endurance race. The same goes for a Christian. We must train our spiritual muscles even when we do not feel like it. We must study the word of God and be so full that when we are put as arrows into God's bow that we will go in the right direction and hit the mark. It requires discipline. After all, Christians are called disciples, right? A disciple is a disciplined one.

The next time you think of your walk with God, think of it as being in a contest to win. You must strive to be the best you can be. Everyone is a winner that hits the bulls' eye. Besides, there are rewards from God for what we do in this earthly body. God loves giving out rewards to those that press in! So, go for the bullseye my friends, and receive the reward!