**Follower #3**

*Following On*Philippians 3:12-14 6/24/2018

Cheering Celebrity Shout Outs: Christ Pratt shares at 2018 MTV Awards

A Statistical Snapshot of South Portage: NO YES

*God is love & invites the world into a loving relationship* 8.7% 73.3%

*I have a personal relationship w/ 1 Living God who is Lord & Savior* 16.2% 66.0%

*Jesus actually rose from the dead as the Bible teaches* 11.7% 64.7%

*Jesus is the only way for human salvation from sin* 21.3% 56.0%

 -Following Jesus: Faith that will deny self, take up cross, follow the Lord

 -Following Through: Faith moves past agreement & holds fast to hope

 -Following On: Faith keeps pressing onward to see hope realized

**Philippians 3:12-14**

-Following On that I might be Found in Christ v. 12

***12****Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.*

 Believers are found in Him b/c He has laid hold of us to make us His own

 -We pursue as faith response to the pursuit Christ already completed

 Believers are found in Him b/c we earnestly pursue the fulfillment of hope

 -We don’t yet have *IT* in our possession

 *…that I may gain Christ,****9****and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,****10****that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;****11****in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. -***Philippians 3:8b-11**

 -We’ve not yet been completed & carried to the determined end

 -We earnestly pursue (aggressively chasing like a hunter)

 -Desperate to hold what He started & is faithful to complete

-Those Following On Find the Right Perspective v. 13

***13****Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies
ahead,*

 -Cruising or Coasting is Presumptive

 -Don’t calculate & reckon that you have done enough or finished

 -The things that lie behind should be permanently lost from mind

 -The Failures of Saul

 -The Victories of Paul

 -The things that are ahead should be stretched intensely toward

 -Are you longing for this world or the hope of eternity?

-Those Following On Focus On the Right Goal v. 14

*but one thing I do…****14****I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

 -Keep looking toward the end-marker

 -There is a prize you have been called upward for

 -He is the rewarder and the reward

 -The Call of God has been extended through Jesus Christ

 -A Divine invitation to embrace salvation in the Kingdom of God

-Following On Until the Good Fight of Faith is Finished

 -Taking Your Next Step in this Long Fight of Faith