

# Pressing on!

Philippians 1:9-11

**And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.**

# Jesus sets a high standard

- Matthew 5:20
- For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

# Walk worthily



Ephesians 4:1-2

**I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, urge you to walk worthily of the calling wherewith you were called, with all humility and gentleness, bearing with one another in love;**

**John 13:35**

**"By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."**

# He will help

- **Philippians 1:6**
- **For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.**
- **2 Cor 4:7**
- **But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves**

# Life is less than perfect

- Philippians 1:15, 18
- Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from good will;.... What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice,

# A plea for unity

- Philippians 1:27
- **Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;**

# Jesus the source of unity

- **Philippians 2:1-2**
- **Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.**

# Selfless/Christ like

- Philippians 2:3-5
- **Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,**

# What we do & why we do it!

- Philippians 2:12-15
- So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or disputing; so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,

# Spirit not flesh

- Philippians 3:1-3
- Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things again is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you. Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision; for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh

# Faith in the flesh is useless

- **Philippians 3:4-7 (Message)**
- **even though we can list what many might think are impressive credentials. You know my pedigree: a legitimate birth, circumcised on the eighth day; an Israelite from the elite tribe of Benjamin; a strict and devout adherent to God's law; a fiery defender of the purity of my religion, even to the point of persecuting Christians; a meticulous observer of everything set down in God's law Book. The very credentials these people are waving around as something special, I'm tearing up and throwing out with the trash; along with everything else I used to take credit for. And why? Because of Christ.**

- **Philippians 3:8-9 (Message)**
- **Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant; dog dung. I've dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ and be embraced by him. I didn't want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ; God's righteousness.**

# So work it out

- **Philippians 2:12-13**
- **So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.**

# Press in hold on

- Philippians 3:12b-15
- ... but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. 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, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you;

# By prayer with thanks

- Philippians 4:4-7
- Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.