

**Rejoicing in Christ**  
**“Pressing Toward the Prize”**  
**(Philippians 3:12-16)**

**Introduction**

**Thesis:** I want you to consider with me four mindsets in pressing on toward Christlikeness so that we may truly live out God’s purposes for our lives and know the joy of the Lord.

I. Pressing toward Christlikeness requires a \_\_\_\_\_  
(vv. 12a, 13a).

II. Pressing toward Christlikeness requires a \_\_\_\_\_  
(vs. 13b).

III. Pressing toward Christlikeness requires an \_\_\_\_\_  
(vs. 13c).

IV. Pressing toward Christlikeness requires an \_\_\_\_\_  
(vs. 13d).

## **Conclusion**

### **Text: Philippians 3:12-16**

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. 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, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 15 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; 16 however, let us keep living by that same standard to which we have attained.

### **Related Texts:**

#### **Romans 8:29**

<sup>29</sup> For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

#### **Ephesians 2:8-10**

<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; <sup>9</sup> not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

#### **Philippians 2:12-13**

<sup>12</sup> 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; <sup>13</sup> for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure.

### **Luke 10:38-42**

<sup>38</sup> Now as they were traveling along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister called Mary, who was seated at the Lord's feet, listening to His word. <sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted with all her preparations; and she came up to *Him* and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the serving alone? Then tell her to help me." <sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; <sup>42</sup> but *only* one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

### **Luke 9:62**

<sup>62</sup> But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

### **1 Corinthians 9:24-27**

<sup>24</sup> Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but *only* one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win. <sup>25</sup> Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then *do it* to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. <sup>26</sup> Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; <sup>27</sup> but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

### **2 Timothy 4:7-8**

<sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; <sup>8</sup> in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.