



# Philippians 3:13-14

“Forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on”

# I Press On

Philippians 3:12-14



# I Press On

- 💧 *“May the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all men” (1 Thessalonians 3:12).*
- 💧 *“That you may excel still more” (4:1).*
- 💧 *“But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more” (4:10).*
- 💧 You are never a failure as long as progress matches experience level and commitment to improve.

*“And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to babes in Christ...For you are still fleshly”*  
(1 Corinthians 3:1-4).

*“For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God”*  
(Hebrews 5:12).



# Something To Look Forward To

*“Not that I have obtained it, or have already become perfect, but I press on in order 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” (Philippians 3:12-14).*

*“For to everyone  
who has shall more  
be given, and he  
shall have an  
abundance”*

**Matthew 25:29**

- ◆ In my Bible study, the more I apply my knowledge, the more accessible it will be.
- ◆ In evangelism, one contact leads to another.
- ◆ In worship, the more I put in, the more I get out.
- ◆ The more charity I show, the more is shown to me.
- ◆ True love will never leave us with a shortage.

# No Pinnacle Until Heaven

Christianity has no pinnacle until our earthly days are over. Unlike an athlete or actor, we do not get to the top and stall out. I will also never study the Bible and “hit a wall” of understanding. Every new phase of life will bring a fresh perspective to the book.



# Never Stop Reaching

- ◆ *“Reaching Forward”* – Paul kept up the chase, never backed down. Do we look forward to the future? Are we planning for our next move?
- ◆ *“That I may lay hold of”* – He was a chosen instrument, and laid hold of his work as vigorously as Christ had laid hold of him (Acts 9:15-16).
- ◆ *“I press on”* – Straining for the finish line, pushed to the limit. This was not the only time Paul described life in such terms (1 Corinthians 9:26, 2 Timothy 4:7).



# The Devil Never Grows

- We are faced with many opportunities to learn and grow, but Satan is pretty much the same from generation to generation. He has not learned any new tricks or techniques.
- He might have been able to push me around when I was younger, but a sober spirit and firmness of faith, learned and practiced (1 Peter 5:8-9), will confound his efforts.

