



BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES FOR GOD

Overcoming Spiritual Plateaus Philippians 3:14

Paul is using an action word with how to accomplish our goal in Christ Jesus.
The word is **Press**.

Press is an action word which requires us to be consistent in order to reach our goals and not to grow stagnant. Goals are designed to be attainable, measured on a daily schedule, and given a reasonable time frame to complete the goal.

Each time we successfully complete a weekly goal we need to celebrate to give us the energy to finish our objectives.

**“Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not”
Galatians 6:9.**

WELCOME!

January 19, 2025

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10AM
WORSHIP 11AM
CHILDREN'S CHURCH AGES 3-7
NURSERY 2 & YOUNGER

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

PRIMARY CLASS 3-6
JUNIOR CLASS 7-12
TEEN CLASS 13-17
7 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS



FROM WEAK TO STRONG
JAN 5--MAR 2
SUNDAY, 11AM

Overcoming Spiritual Plateaus

From Weak to Strong Series

Notes

What can we do to move beyond spiritual Plateaus?

Why is it important to mix things up?

Why did delegating everyday duties help Moses?

How can we minimize everyday battles?

Connect with your kids

People need more than food to live. They also need God's words to guide them.

Verse: Philippians 3:14

- "I press on" means to keep going even when it's hard.
- "toward the goal" means we have a purpose or something we are working toward.
- "to win the prize" means achieving something special.
- "for which God has called me" means God has chosen us for a special purpose.
- "heavenward in Christ Jesus" means that this goal is to live a life that pleases God and leads us to heaven.

Questions to Engage

- Can you think of a time when you kept trying even though it was hard? How did that make you feel in the end?
- "What do you think the 'prize' is that God wants us to work toward?"
- "Why do you think it's important to keep going even when things are tough?"

Philippians 4:13: "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

1. Growth Matters

Leaders lose influence if they do not continue to grow. But growth doesn't just happen. It requires intentionality and investment. Paul was passionate about his spiritual potential. In Philippians 3:12 – 15 Paul declared important truths about how to keep growing to the end:

- Communicate honestly where you are: "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal . . . I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it."
- Concentrate totally on your goal: "I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. . . . I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."
- Consecrate everything you have to get there: "But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead. . . . All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you."

2. People Matter

Paul valued relationships and expressed appreciation for others. He expressed that value and appreciation all throughout his letters.

- "I always thank my God for you" (1 Corinthians 1:4).
- "Ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you" (Ephesians 1:15 – 16).
- "I thank my God every time I remember you" (Philippians 1:3).

Paul put a "10" on every person's head — meaning he expected the best of them and helped them think more highly of themselves. He gave people hope, and he shared himself with others.

3. Obedience Matters

Paul was faithful to God's call. As the apostle bade a tearful, final farewell to the elders in the church at Ephesus, he reminded them he had faithfully served the Lord despite hardships. He told them he felt compelled to go to Jerusalem although he knew chains and tribulations awaited him there. But, Paul assured them, none of that mattered to him. What did matter was that he finish the ministry he had received from the Lord (Acts 20:17 – 25).

Those who wanted him to quit preaching could throw rocks at him, but that didn't stop Paul. He counted it a privilege to suffer for Christ.

What could be done with the apostle Paul? Absolutely nothing, because nothing mattered more to him than faithful obedience to God.

The true nature of leadership isn't self-centered exaltation like Nero demonstrated — it's an ongoing process of sacrifice that faithfully serves others and obeys God no matter the cost.

Growth matters. People matter. Obedience matters.

When we embrace and embody those principles we can, like Paul, lead well and finish well.

(Excerpted from an article by John Maxwell from the NIV Maxwell Leadership Bible)



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