

# SERMON NOTES

*Joy for the Journey: Focus Forward*  
*Philippians 3:12-21*

Oswald Chambers writes in *My Utmost For His Highest*: “Having the reality of God’s presence is not dependent on our being in a particular circumstance or place, but is only dependent on our determination to keep the Lord before us continually. Our problems arise when we refuse to place our trust in the reality of His presence . . .”

Paul fixed his mind, body, and spirit on a forward focus!! He did not let distractions steal his joy! Joy for the journey is found when your mind, body, and spirit are fixed on a forward focus. Paul challenged the Philippian church individually and corporately to press on!

## THERE ARE FIVE CHALLENGES WE ARE GIVEN BY PAUL...

- **Keep your focus forward** – reaching forward – v. 13
- **Keep your focus on the finish line** – the goal – v. 14
- **Keep your focus on the faith** – the standard – v. 16
- **Keep your focus on the right examples** – the example – v. 17
- **Keep your focus on your future hope** – the eternal home – v. 20

## AN UNKNOWN AUTHOR ONCE WROTE...

Press on!  
 Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence.  
 Talent will not.  
 Nothing is more common than successful men with talent.  
 Genius will not.  
 Unrewarded genius is almost a proverb.  
 Education will not.  
 The world is filled with educated derelicts.  
 Persistence and determination alone are important...

God’s desire is for you to press on with a forward focus. The Word of God is clear, **in Jesus name, PRESS ON!**