

**Quote:** "I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody."—**Abraham Lincoln**

### 3. A BIBLICAL \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 15–16)

A. For The Spiritually \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 15)

MATURE CHRISTIANS GROW

MATURE CHRISTIANS ARE GUIDED

*"Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.  
9 The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way."  
(Psalm 25:8–9)*

B. For the Biblically \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 16)

A SPIRITUAL WALK

*"Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me." (Psalm 119:133)*

A GUIDED WALK

**Quote:** "A Bible that is falling apart usually belongs to someone who is not."—**D.L. Moody**

*"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works."*  
(2 Timothy 3:16–17)

**Quote:** "The secret to staying connected with the now, is to stay connected to what is eternal."

### CONCLUSION

#### 3 TAKEAWAYS

1. Make an Honest Assessment

*"For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;"*(1 Thessalonians 1:9)

2. Make a Determination to Advance

*"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,"*(Philippians 3:13)

3. Get Biblically Aligned

*"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls."*(Acts 2:41)



#### UPCOMING EVENTS



##### Vision Sunday

January 11 | 11 AM & 5 PM

On this day, we ask God for a new vision—a vision for bringing salvation through Christ to our world.



##### Winter Revival

January 25 | 9 or 11 AM & 5 PM

January 26–28 | 7 PM

Join us for these four days of spiritual renewal.



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# Preparations for a NEW YEAR

PASTOR PAUL CHAPPELL | DECEMBER 28, 2025

## Text: Philippians 3:12–16

*“Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. 15 Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. 16 Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.”*  
(Philippians 3:12–16)

## INTRODUCTION

*“So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.”*  
(Psalm 90:12)

*“Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.”* (1 Corinthians 4:2)

## 1. AN HONEST \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12–13b)

**Quote:** “Life is like a muddy jar – sometimes you only see clearly when you are sitting still.”

### A. An Honest \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12a)

*“Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect:”*  
(Philippians 3:12a)

#### A HUMBLE VIEW

*“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.”* (Philippians 1:6)

#### A NEEDFUL WARNING

*“Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.”* (1 Peter 5:5)

*“And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. 8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. 9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made*

*perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ’s sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.”*  
(2 Corinthians 12:7–10)

## B. A Steady \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12b–13)

### HE DETERMINED TO PURSUE

*“Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.”* (James 4:8)

### HE DETERMINED TO PATTERN AFTER CHRIST

*“Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.”* (Ephesians 4:13)

*“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”*  
(Romans 8:29)

### HE DETERMINED TO FORGET THE PAST

**Quote:** “The runner in the race practices persistent concentration on one, and only one, objective, namely, to press on toward the goal for the prize. He permits nothing to divert him from his course. His aim is definite, well-defined.”—William Hendriksen

*“Many are the afflictions of the righteous: But the LORD delivereth him out of them all.”* (Psalm 34:19)

Quote – Don’t Ruin your future by living in your past.

Quote – “Guilt frenzies the soul. Grace calms it.”

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9)

*“And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”* (Luke 9:62)

**Quote:** “God is not as interested in assigning blame as He is in solving the problem...”

## 2. A DETERMINED \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 13c–14)

### A. Determine to Reach \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 13c)

### B. Determine to Reach \_\_\_\_\_ the Prize (v. 14)

*“Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.”* (1 Corinthians 9:24–25)

### C. Determine To Know \_\_\_\_\_

*“That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;”*  
(Philippians 3:10)