# PRESSING ON, STRETCHING FORWARD, TO PERFECTION

Philippians 3:12-16

#### I. Not Perfect Yet – vs. 12a

Lambánō - take hold of; acquire; collect; receive

Teleióō- make perfect; make genuine; complete

1 Corinthians 13:12

2 Corinthians 7:1

Romans 8:26-27

2 Peter 3:18

## II. Pressing On To Grab Hold – vs. 12b

 $Di\bar{o}k\bar{o}$  - to seek after <u>eagerly</u>, earnestly endeavor to <u>acquire</u>.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Colossians 1:29

1 Timothy 6:12

*Katalambánō* – acquire; attack; <u>seize</u>

*Romans* 8:29

2 Thessalonians 2:13-15

#### III. Ignoring The Past And Stretching Forward – vs. 13

James 1:8

Proverbs 4:25-27

Philippians 3:5-6

1 Corinthians 6:11

Romans 8:1

Epekteinomai – 1. to stretch <u>out to</u> or towards 2. to stretch (one's self) <u>forward</u> to

*Ephesians 4:11-14* 

1 Corinthians 11:1

#### IV. Pressing Toward The Upward Call – vs. 14

1 Corinthians 9:24

1 John 3:2

James 1:12

2 Timothy 4:7-8

### V. Let's Agree To Agree With God – vs. 15

Téleios – genuine; mature; perfect; adult

*Phronéō* - to be of the same <u>mind</u> i.e. agreed together, cherish the same <u>views</u>, be <u>harmonious</u>

Philippians 2:2, 5

1 Corinthians 2:16

2 Peter 1:3

Colossians 3:2

#### VI. Stay In The Same Lane – vs. 16

 $Phthán\bar{o}$  – come to; arrived at; attained

Stoichéō – to be in step with; to range in regular line; to proceed in a row as the march of a soldier

Closing Thought: Beloved, we are not perfect, nor will we be until we arrive in heaven. Anyone who believes perfection, on this side of heaven, is attainable doesn't think like God. However, we are to strain, to strive, to press on, growing in holiness. We are to ignore our worthless past accomplishments, as well as our past sins, focused on our heavenward call. We are to run this same race of holiness that was run by Paul. Are you pressing on, stretching forward becoming more like Christ?