

Sermon Notes

PRESSING ON IN 2021

——— Dec. 2020 | Pastor Ben Dixon ———

Can you remember what it was like at the end of 2019? What were you thinking as you went into the new year? What were you excited about? What were you hopeful for? What were you praying for? What prophetic words were you believing God for? What Scriptures had God put on your heart? I was personally standing in great faith for the days ahead based on what we had been experiencing. As a church, we were growing in every way and it was quite exciting. Then we went through 2020 and it has been a real shaking. During that time, my faith for what God was going to do moved to a faith that He would keep us encouraged, strong, Christ-like, and unified so that we could recover and stay focused on the mission of Christ.

Now we are standing at the beginning of another year and I can honestly say that I have that same faith in my heart but in many ways, it feels more substantive, strong, and robust. As I prayed about what to share with our church this weekend I heard the words of the Apostle Paul ring in my heart from Philippians chapter 3. He said on more than one occasion, “I press on.” I believe the Lord wants to show us how we can press on in the new year no matter what it looks like.

PHILIPPIANS 3:1-21

WE MUST BE CLEAR ABOUT OUR PURPOSE

Philippians 3:8-11

1. Our purpose is to know Jesus
2. Our purpose is to become like Jesus

WE MUST HAVE THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

Philippians 3:12-16

1. He saw and confessed his need for growth
2. He let go of the past
3. He laid hold of the future

WE MUST MAINTAIN THE RIGHT POSTURE