

PROGRESS OVER PERFECTION

“R.P.I.”

New Hope Church - June 7, 2020

Philippians 3:12-17, 20-21 (NIV)

“Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already **arrived** at my goal, but I **press** on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I **press** on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. 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. Only let us live up to what we have already attained...”

“...Join together in **following** my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.”

1. R _____

- The word **arrived**, as translated in the NIV, means to ‘to be brought to the goal, to reach the end of one’s course.’
- In verse 15 Paul goes on to say, ‘those of us who are **mature**’ which speaks of one who is fully accomplished.

2. P _____

- Appears in verses 12 & 14, and carries the same definition, to press forwards. The goal is not perfection, rather it is a desire to progress towards Christ – becoming more like Him daily.

3. I _____

- In verse 17 we read the word **following** and we are all acutely aware of what it means to follow, yet the original word here implies ‘imitating together, or jointly.’

BIG IDEA:

Its not about _____

It’s about _____

You are _____ to progress imperfectly!

What is your next step?