

## Editorial Thought...

# Press Forward To The Prize...

*"I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God is calling us up to heaven because of what Christ Jesus did for us."*

(Philippians 3:14 NLT)



Daniel Seay

*"I don't mean to say I am perfect. I haven't learned all I should even yet, but I keep working toward that day when I will finally be all that Christ saved me for and wants me to be."* (Philippians 3:12).

There is a refreshing honesty about these words from the Apostle Paul. If anyone had a reason to brag about his accomplishments, you would think it would be the Apostle Paul. But he doesn't do that. Despite having met the Lord on the Damascus Road, despite having preached across the eastern Mediterranean region, despite being an apostle called by God, despite writing letters inspired by the Holy Spirit,... despite all that he had endured, he does not brag about anything that he has said or done. None of that matters to Paul.

He knows that he is a sinner saved by grace. In another place he even calls himself the "chief of sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15). Despite all that he had done, he makes no claim of being perfect or having arrived in his own spiritual journey. There is no perfection in this life – *his or ours*.

That fact is hard for some people to grasp. Several times lately I have had the chance to share this truth that is both simple and profound. Whenever we face a difficulty in life, we must begin by saying, "It is what it is." That's not easy to do. Often we would rather play games, make excuses, cover up, pretend, ignore the obvious, and live in fantasy land. You can't get better until you come to grips with reality. "It is what it is."

It's hard to admit your marriage is in trouble. It's hard to admit your career is on the rocks. It's hard to admit your dreams are smashed. It's hard to admit your children are struggling. It's hard to admit you're broke. It's hard to admit you have a problem with alcohol. It's hard to admit you've got a critical spirit. It's hard to admit you're filled with anger. The bitter truth is, *it is what it is*. And so it is with all the trials of life. First we begin by saying, "It is what it is." And then by God's grace we move on from there.

The only thing that keeps us going is this: *Jesus is a wonderful Savior, and He is everything we are not*. He is the model for what we are to become. Our knowledge of Him is the basis for our understanding of what He believes we each can become if we but will surrender our *will* into His *Will*. What we know is true is that which the Psalmist brought before the people of Israel: ***The Lord Himself is my inheritance, my Prize. He is my food and drink, my highest joy! He guards all that is mine.*** [ Psalm 16:5 – NLT ]. No greater truth exists than this: **HE** is our **Prize**.

## News And Notes

### Our Prayer List

Rob Harris, Kathy Collins, Chris Folster, Gwen Gann, LouAnn Gann, Josh Werner, Billye Werner, June Brant, Donna Spader, Rozalyn Boggs, Alice Jones, Diana Nordin, Jeannette Pope, Betsy Pippin, Our Elected Officials and all World Leaders.

*"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."*  
[James 5:16b]

### Statistics

For The Week Of October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016

Sun3ay Class	14
Sunday AM	19
Sunday PM	dnm
Wednesday PM	6 – work night
Contribution	\$812.00
YTD Budget (40 x \$735))	\$29,400.00
Difference Year-To-Date	-\$1332.90
Savings Account Balance	\$2,281.01

2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 9:12 – 'Your generosity is doing great things

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

**Birthdays:** Wade McCallie (7), Tonja McCollam (9), Emma McCollam (16), Charlene Edgett (21), Janice Seay (25)

### COMING EVENTS

#### Pantry Is Empty

- Let's Restock To Be Prepared-

#### Fellowship Lunch Today

- Noon @ BIG CHEESE -

**Ladies Day In Coffeyville – Nov 12<sup>th</sup>**

**- Lunch Provided – RSVP By Nov 5<sup>th</sup> -**

### SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray fervently for: **Kathy Collins** (knee surgery), **June Brant, Rob Harris, Gene Barnes, Jozie and Christina Thompson, C.J. Watkins, Jimmy Golden, Chris Folster, Sharon Miller** (neighbor of Peggy Tucker), **Scott Law** (relative of Billie Werner), **Lou Ann Gann**, and **Jackie Peters** (friend of the Gann's).

*The Lord Himself is my inheritance, my prize. He is my food and drink, my highest joy! He guards all that is mine.* [ Psalm 16:5 – NLT ]

## Agenda For Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Theme:**

### **PRESS FORWARD TO THE PRIZE**

**Today's Topic:**

### **"Press Forward – Gain The Prize"**

AM Class: **AD – Film Series Study**

Teacher: Chase Harris / *In The Blue Room*

10:30 am: **Hurried – Worried – Buried**

- Text: Philippians 3 / Matthew 6L25-34

1 pm: - **Devotional-**

-At The Big Cheese -

Wed. 7pm: **Class Study "BELIEVE"**

Wade McCallie, Teaching

### Special Prayer Requests

Pray Special And Specific Intercessory Prayers For:

June Brant	Gwen Gann
Rob Harris	Alice Jones
Kathy Collins	Allen Sullivan
Billye Werner	Tim & Chandra Stebbins
Jackie Peters	Cynthia Bradley
Chris Folster	Paul & Kathy Apprill
Roy Bays	Charlene Edgett
Gene Barnes	Jozie Thompson
C J Watkins	Scott Law
Sharon Miller	Jimmy Golden

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—C.S. LEWIS