

The Attitude of Christ

#4 The Attitude to Press On

Introduction

Last week we talked about having an attitude to serve. Let's always keep in mind that a good servant is an obedient servant. Recently, Pastor Larry preached a message about the Holy Spirit, and one thing he said falls in line with being a servant. He said it is not in what we don't know from the Holy Spirit, but rather it is what we already do know from the Holy Spirit, that we must obey. In the same sense, God will not ask us to serve in a capacity when we haven't obeyed Him in what He has asked us to serve in another capacity. A servant cannot pick and choose what areas he will serve in. We must be willing to obey in every capacity.

This week we are going to look at the attitude to press on. Jesus exhibited this attitude in His earthly ministry. One example is the time Satan tempted Him in the desert. He didn't allow the attacks of the enemy to stop Him from what He was sent to do. Jesus kept pressing onward in obedience to His Father.

Keep Pressing On...

What kinds of attitudes come to mind when you hear the words "keep pressing on"?

Have you ever been discouraged you when you heard the words "keep pressing on"?

Think of ways that Jesus showed us the attitude of pressing on?

What does the Word say about this?

Let's read [Philippians 3:1-16](#). Here, Paul is talking about pressing forward. Forgetting the things behind, and looking at what is ahead. This was all for the sake of Christ.

In this passage, why does Paul talk about those things in which he could have confidence in the flesh?

Could things in our past (bad or good things) hinder us from pressing on?

[See verse 8](#). Paul says, "I count..." How does this phrase mean he has an *attitude* of pressing on?

[Read Acts 20:22-24](#). Here, Paul is talking about what lies ahead of him, and not allowing that to stop him from pressing on.

Can fear of the future sometimes paralyze us from pressing on? Do you have an example of this?

In Jesus' ministry, He had an attitude to press on even when His disciples didn't see straight. Read [Matthew 16:21-23](#). Jesus had perfect vision about spiritual things and He was able to immediately see that Peter's words were a stumbling block for what the Father had sent Him to do. His mind, His attitude was completely on God's interests and His alone. **How can this be an example for us as we press on in our Christian lives?**

Just like Jesus and Peter – has anyone ever given you a “oh you poor thing!” or “you shouldn’t have to do that!” kind of lecture where they are tempting you to stop pressing on?

Read Luke 9:57-62. What was Jesus trying to teach us here?

All throughout His life, even in his younger years, Jesus had a mind to press on and not allow anything to distract Him. Remember when He was a young boy and He told His earthly parents, “I have to be about my Father’s business”? This was not disrespect for His earthly parents; rather it was respect for His Father in heaven.

Lastly, let’s look at the Goal ...

Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8. 2 Timothy was the very last letter Paul wrote. This was at the end of his life. Here he was able to claim that he fought the good fight and he finished the race. It wasn’t until the end of his life when the “time of his departure” had come that he could claim this.

List some things that God has shown you that you need to leave behind. These could be past things such as sins or it could be things that are good but give you confidence in the flesh. Also, they could be fearful things in the future that are hindering you from pressing on. Pray that God would help you to have a mind to PRESS ON to the higher calling!

Let’s spend some time in prayer.

SMALL GROUP SCHEDULE: We are going to meet for two more weeks to complete these six weeks on the Attitudes of Christ. After that, we are going to take a summer break. Before the summer break, we will have an ALL Small Group Celebration that each of you is invited to attend. It will be a Summer Picnic with a barbeque, games, fishing, and worship time on Saturday, June 14 at 4:00 pm at Arrowhead Springs Park. It will be a time to reflect on our year of Small Groups and to invite others who may be interested in being a part of this next year. There will be more information on this to follow. Put it on your calendars now!

During the summer, each individual small group is encouraged to meet about once a month for a “small group get-together” for prayer and sharing. It will be up to your small group to decide on this. Also, summer is a great time to reach out and invite your neighbors to your home to meet your “family from church” as we all have come out of our winter hibernation to be more neighborly.