



Sermon Questions

March 1st, 2026 | Scripture: Philippians 3:12-21 – *Joyful Perseverance*

Pre-study: 3 things from the sermon. *Write down 3 ideas, illustrations, quotes, or points that made an impression in the sermon.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Here are some other ways you can meet with God throughout the week:

Reflect on these passages that trace the theme of joyful perseverance throughout the scriptures:

- Exodus 17:1-7
- Psalm 95
- Matthew 25:1-13
- 2 Corinthians 4:7-18
- Hebrews 3:3-17
- Revelation 21:1-4

Core Questions

1. Where do you go to for strength when life hits you hard?
2. Why does Paul first begin an exhortation to persevere by addressing what lies behind in verses 12-13?
3. In verses 13-14 Paul relates Christian perseverance to pressing on to a goal and receiving a prize. How is this goal and prize the same as and different than those we often strive for in life?
4. Paul shows that grieving is a necessary part of persevering well in verse 18. How does the gospel free us to pray and grieve the broken things of life?
5. What is the promise of hope that Paul holds out to us in verse 21? How does knowing that our suffering has an expiration date help us persevere until the end and motivate us to run hard after Christ?

Inward Grace in Action

1. What is the most difficult part about perseverance for you? Is it the things that lie behind, a difficult present reality, or lack of hope for the future?

Outward Grace in Action

1. God has not called us to persevere alone on our journey. What are some practical steps that we can take this week to encourage one another on our journey towards eternal life with Christ?

Scripture Memory Challenge:

*During this sermon series, our challenge to you and your CG is to memorize **Philippians 2:5-11**. This is the heart of the entire letter that will equip us to live with resilient joy.*

Serve: Although Summer may seem far away, Vacation Bible School is already open for registration. With that, we are looking for many new and returning members to help bring the gospel to the kids in our church and community through serving. Whether you have one hour or one whole week to give please consider signing up to serve at mcleanpres.org/serve.

Look Ahead: Next week we will continue in our sermon series (Resilient Joy) on the book of Philippians. The scripture passage will be Philippians 4:1-3 where we will see how the Apostle Paul shows us how to fight for joy.

For Families: Ideas of how to keep the conversation going at home, in the car, or around the dinner table:

1. **A - Ask about the message:** Ask your children about the last time they ran in a race. Where did they look to for strength when the going got tough?
2. **S - Share your thoughts:** Explain that our passage likens the Christian life to a race with both a goal and a prize. Being made more like Christ is the goal, and the prize is a life spent forever with Jesus in heaven. Because of what Jesus has done for us this race we are running is not to earn God's favor. Therefore, we can work hard to know Christ as he empowers by the Holy Spirit every step of the way
3. **K - Keep it going:** The Lord has given us many ways to train for the race of the Christian life. One of those is memorizing his word. Take time to review Philippians 1:14 each day before dinner or bedtime this week. Pray that God will help you persevere in the Christian life with the goal and prize of Christ firm in our minds!