

*Great Expectations*  
**The Great Adventure**

**Phil. 3:12-14**

**Verse 12**

“attain” refers to verse 11 – resurrection from the dead (!)

What is he referring to? We’ll come back to that. Suffice it to say, Paul did not see his Christian faith as a “life insurance policy” he had obtained in the past.

**“lay hold”**

Has Jesus “laid hold” of you? Why?

Basically, it’s a rescue mission!

- Eternal
- Now (destructive patterns)
- Rescue others! This is basically the Great Commission: reach and make disciples.

**Verse 14**

- What *is* the “upward calling”?
- Participating in the rescue mission!

**Verse 15**

Paul warns us about thinking this is a life purpose only for those who are specially ‘gifted’.

This is an attitude for anyone who wants to be mature.

- Based on how relatively few Christians embrace this as their life purpose, not many Christians are mature!

This becomes our reason for living!

**Verse 13**

To fulfill God’s call on your life, you have to keep...

- forgetting those things which are behind (failures and successes)
- reaching forth (“press”; athletic mentality)

Greek word here (for “press”) is interesting. Most of the time it’s translated “persecute”. Means you have to be *aggressive* in it.

Because most Christians are not ‘pressing forward’ to this call, they settle for the world’s inferior goals of survival or success. They miss significance. They miss the adventure.

**Response**

You have to ‘press’ toward it. This means you have to consciously keep this as a goal. Are you doing this?