

# PRESSING INTO CHRIST

Apostle Mark Kauffman

*“Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press towards the mark for the high calling of God in Jesus Christ.”* Philippians 3:13-14

There are two Greek words for the word “mark” in the New Testament, one is goal and the other is character. Our goal therefore should be the character of Christ, to be like Jesus. Jesus came and apprehended every one of us, now He awaits for a people who will press in and apprehend Him.

Our worship, our service and our lifestyle, all reach out and lay hold of Jesus. We will never lay hold of the things that God has promised us until we let go of the things behind us. All our hurts, disappointments, bitter experiences, the rejections we have had, we must let them go by forgiving and forgetting. I have counseled many who have experienced failure in the past, and who now fear moving forward to their destiny afraid of failing again. Our focus must be on Christ and the promises of God over our life not on our pain, problems and persecutions of yesterday.

We must set our eyes on the prize. Prizes and gifts are not the same. Gifts are given, prizes are won. The prize is not a larger ministry, a better job or more money, but to be like Jesus.

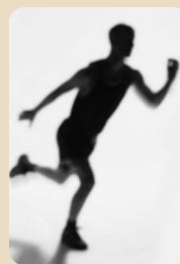
*“But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb, and called me by his grace, to reveal his son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood.”* Galatians 1:15-16

God’s ultimate plan for His people is to reveal His Son in us.

*“For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.”* Romans 8:19

This passage reveals that creation is not waiting for Jesus, but for the Son of God to be manifested in the Sons of God. You and I, we are called to pray like Jesus, speak like Him, heal like Jesus, deliver like Him, love like Him and show mercy like Him. God’s will is to reveal Himself in us. He is begging to become visible in His Body on planet earth.

*“Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run that ye may obtain.”* I Corinthians 9:24



He doesn’t say it’s a walk, but a run. When one walks he can be distracted by so many things, when one runs he maintains a much better focus on where his destiny and goal is.

*“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God”* Romans 3:23



The Greek word for “sinned” is to miss the mark. When I say sin the first thing that comes to mind is fornication, murder, adultery, stealing and so forth. Those are but some of the fruits to the root of sin. The root problem is coming short of the mark of His character. Therefore, that which is not Christ’s character is sin. So if we desire to finish the race, we finish by becoming like Jesus. It is not how we start it’s how well we finish.

*“His Lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou has been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.”* Matthew 25:23

I’ve watched many pastors and Christian leaders start strong and yet finish weak. Once again, the high call of God on your life and mine is to be like Jesus. If there is a high call, there is also a low call. We sin and miss the mark when we quit pressing. All of us are called to press into this high call of God. Young person, you better marry someone who will press into God with you. You had better attend church where you’re pressed by the Word.

We are living in a time of unprecedented pressure. If you are experiencing this, you are not alone. We enter into the Kingdom through much tribulation or pressure. As you press forward, you will press through every hindrance and every trial into the purpose of God. If the Lord has given you a promise there will be pressure that you

will have to go through to receive that promise.

*“And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”* Galatians 6:9

Let us not get weary in the race, we are promised a harvest if we faint not. The word “due” in the Greek means personal. God has chosen a personal, private time just for you to be blessed and enter your inheritance.

*“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.”* Philippians 1:6

The Lord promises us this passage that we are to be confident that what the Lord has started in us He will finish also. The time has come for the Body of Christ to press into their destiny to be like Him.

Jesus is the Alpha and Omega the beginning and the end. We are anointed to finish what we have been placed on this planet to do, reveal Him to mankind.

*“If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses?”* Jeremiah 12:5a



Things are accelerating quickly in God's Kingdom. This verse expresses the momentum of what the Lord is doing in this present hour. God's Kingdom is advancing faster than ever before. If we can't keep up with the pace of the footman, how will we keep up with the horses? The answer is our pursuit. It is our press into Christ, who promises us we will not be wearied if we wait on Him, but our strength shall be renewed.

Let me encourage you, in closing, to press into Christ with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, for He is faithful who promised.



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Apostle Mark Kauffman is the founder & overseeing apostle of Jubilee Ministries International, located in New Castle, Pennsylvania. He is the owner of two businesses, Butz Flowers Gifts and Home Decor which is the second oldest and one of the largest florists in the United States and Destiny Developers, a real estate development company.

Being passionately involved in both ministry and business has brought a unique ability to equip and train marketplace ministers to link the idea of prosperity to a God given plan that will advance the kingdom of God. He also oversees Impacting the Nations Network which oversees 100 pastors and churches based in the nation of India. Kauffman is the international editor of the VACHANACHOSHANAM Newspaper in India. This newspaper not only spreads the message of the kingdom in India but throughout Asia and the Middle East.

Through the power of God and word of knowledge he sees many miraculous healings and deliverances as he ministers the Gospel of the Kingdom. His heart is to see the body demonstrate the nature and ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ thus fulfilling their destiny.

He is married to Jill Kauffman, who pastors along with him, and has 3 sons Anthony, Ryan & Christian Mark and a granddaughter, Alexandra Irene.