



# CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

December 29, 2019

## ONE THING

**Philippians 3:12-14 (NIV)** Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Heading into the new year, one thing is most important: fully committing yourself to pursue God. The Apostle Paul describes how you can do this by choosing to:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the baggage of your past in your \_\_\_\_\_.

Leaving the baggage of your past means that you change your perspective and attitude about it. You determine and declare:

- ▶ That's who I was, but it's not who I am.

**2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)** This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun.

- ▶ That's what I did, but it's not what I do.

**Luke 19:8 (NIV)** Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, "I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!"

- ▶ That's what happened to me, but it doesn't define me.

**Genesis 50:19-21 (NIV)** But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ for God's purposes in the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)** Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

**Romans 12:1 (Message)** So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ into God's promises for your \_\_\_\_\_.

**Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NIV)** "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Two promises you can lean into for your future:

- ▶ The promise of His \_\_\_\_\_.
- ▶ The promise of His \_\_\_\_\_.