

# Good News for the Not-So-Good: Becoming What We Already Are

Wylie Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – January 18, 2026

## Philippians 3:7-16

7 But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. 10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. 12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 Brothers, 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, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. 15 All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. 16 Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

## 1. SANCTIFICATION IS GOD'S WILL FOR EVERY BELIEVER

### 1 Thessalonians 4:3

It is God's will that you should be sanctified...

## 2. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE AGENT OF SANCTIFICATION

### 2 Thessalonians 2:13

... from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.

## 3. SANCTIFICATION IS A PROCESS, NOT A SWITCH

### Philippians 1:6

... He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

### Philippians 3:12-14

12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 ... I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it... 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

## 4. OUR SANCTIFICATION BRINGS GLORY TO GOD

### Matthew 5:16

“... let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”

### John 15:8

“This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”

### Philippians 1:9-11

And this is my prayer... that you may be ... filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ — to the glory and praise of God.

### Philippians 3:16

let us live up to what we have already attained.