



## CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	How Can We Be Faithful to The End	SPEAKER	SP Chua Seng Lee
THEME	Faith for Every Season	DATE	29 & 30 Nov 2025

# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

Change and conflict are inevitable in our everyday lives. When we reach a crossroad or when unfortunate incidents occur, we often ask ourselves how we can navigate difficult situations more effectively. However, it's more appropriate to ask: 'What's the end point?' After all, goals help us tide through change without becoming overwhelmed.

In Hebrews 12:1-2, Paul describes how we should 'run with endurance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith'. As we run the race, let's not forget to fix our eyes on Jesus. That way, we can find stability, especially in our spiritual lives.

## HOW CAN WE BE FAITHFUL TO THE END

Chapter 3 of the book of Philippians focuses on the *Joy of Knowing Christ*. In verses 12-14, Paul says that he 'has not laid hold of it', 'it' referring to the ability to know Jesus fully. Paul was very determined to make *knowing Jesus* and *becoming like Jesus* his ultimate goal in life. He saw every situation in life and ministry as a stepping goal to his ultimate passion and life goal of knowing Jesus.

How can we fix our eyes on Jesus, as Paul had? He demonstrates three principles that we can emulate:

### 1) I have not arrived

Paul was already in his sixties when we wrote in Philippians that he has yet to know Jesus fully. This demonstrates his humility—if he, a former Pharisee, cannot claim to know God fully, then we, too, have to recognise that 'we are not there yet'. Even if we have experienced past successes, we should not let our guards down, as they do not guarantee future success, or success in our spiritual lives. We have to guard against complacency—not stepping up to the plate, or losing our freshness and enthusiasm for gaining more knowledge about God.

We have to remain humble and teachable, and recognise that there's so much to learn when it comes to God. This is especially true for older believers, who may lower their guard because of a false sense that the end of the race is near.

### 2) I must forget my past

In verse 13, Paul mentions that he 'forgets what lies behind' and 'strains towards what is ahead'.

Our past can hold us back from thriving in the wonderful future that God has prepared for us. It's easy to revel in the glorious days of our past, perhaps because the known past is more appealing than the terrifying, unknowable future. However, change is the most constant thing in life, and facing change is what moves us forward. We must remember that while we do not know what the future holds, we have faith in our Lord who holds the future.

SP dispelled two common myths about change that can keep us locked in our pasts:

### **1. I am too old for change**

- a. On the contrary, our better days are always ahead of us. People in their 50s may think of themselves as 'old', but they are in fact at their peak competency, have more control over how they spend their time, and have more energy than they expect (depending on their health). Many people accomplish their best work in the latter halves of their lives.
- b. In a football match, events that take place in the second half are what determine the outcome of the game. Likewise, the second halves of our lives matter more than the first as they determine how we finish our race and stand before God.
- c. SP suggested for older church members to mentor younger members, become a prayer warrior, or allow God to lead them to a new assignment.

### **2. I am too messed up to change**

- a. This is a lie from the devil. In Joel 2:25, the Lord says that He will 'make up to you for the years that the swarming locusts have eaten'. We must forget our pasts, fix our eyes upon Jesus and step confidently into the future He has prepared for us.

### **3) I must press ahead**

In verse 14, Paul says that he is pressing on towards the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Jesus Christ. It is important to press on because our spiritual journeys are not over yet and we are susceptible to the devil's taunts and discouragement.

Paul describes Jesus as the goal, the prize and the upward call. As we navigate change and uncertainty, let's fix our eyes upon Him and make Him the reason for our actions in life. Before making decisions, let's evaluate whether our choice was made as an act of worship to God, or whether we were compelled by vanity or self-centredness instead.

## CONCLUSION

Life is not about us—it's getting to know Jesus.

As we near the end of 2025, let's reflect on how we have spent the year and evaluate if we need to make changes in our lives to move further in our walk with God. We cannot settle for the idols in our lives. Allow God to renew your mind, help you let go of your past and strengthen your will to press on till Christ is formed in you. Do not underestimate what you can achieve by the end of this year.

# QUESTIONS

**1. SP pointed out that a lot of people create their best work in the latter halves of their lives. Did this statement cause you to view your life differently? How so?**

**2. What are the areas of your life where you may have felt you have arrived because of your age or experience? How is God inviting you to be humble and teachable?**

**3. What can you do to prepare your heart for a 2026 that focuses on Jesus? Share your goals and pray for each other.**

