

EVERY MAN'S MISSION: *Aim Higher*

Pastor Chris Engel – September 20, 2026

Philippians 3:13–21 (NIV)

¹³Brothers 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, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵All of us, then, 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. ¹⁶Only let us live up to what we have already attained. ¹⁷Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. ¹⁸For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Every Mission has a goal, a target. The question is: What are you aiming at? If you're aiming at things that can only satisfy in the moment, your aim is too low!

1. Where are you looking? Don't live your life looking in the rearview mirror. (13-14; Luke 9:62)

What direction are you moving in?

2. What are you pursuing? Pursue Christ and His calling. (14-16; Phil. 3:10; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27)

One of the marks of spiritual maturity is realizing you haven't arrived yet.

Immaturity says, "Look how far I've come."

Maturity says, "Look how much further I have to go."

3. Who are you following? Follow the right people. (17-19; 1 Corinthians 11:1; Proverbs 13:20; Psalm 1:1-2; Romans 12:2)

What content are you consuming? What voices are you listening to?

Who are you following and where are they taking you?

What you continually look at begins shaping what you aim at.

4. Where are you going? Your Destiny is Heaven ... now, live like it! (20-21; Colossians 3:1-4)

*Aiming higher means fixing your life on Christ, His calling,
His kingdom, and ultimately His return.*

Remember, your finish line is in heaven.