

# TCOLCC 2026 Church Theme



# Moving Forward In **THE PROMISE**



**Bible Study**  
**January 21, 2026**  
**Pastor Joe Louis Middleton**

**Philippians 3:13-14**

# Moving Forward In THE PROMISE

JESUS IS THE PROMISE –  
THE PROMISE MAKER AND THE  
PROMISE KEEPER

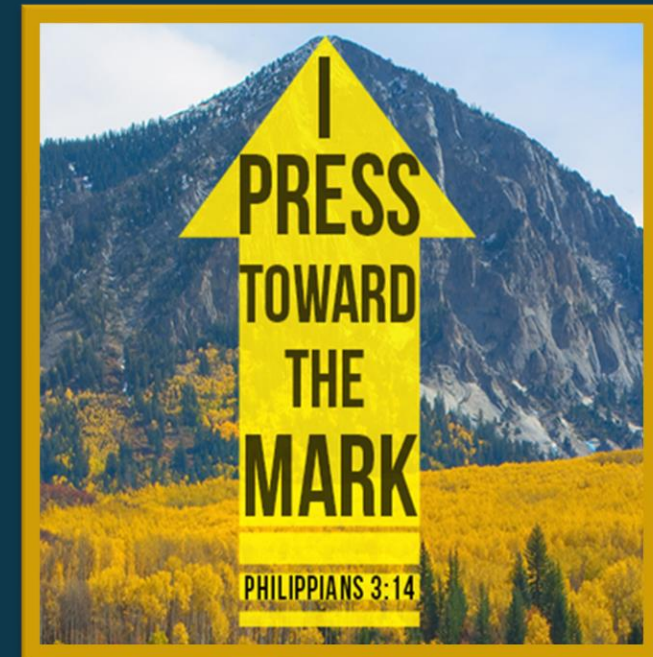


Philippians 3:13-14

# OUR FRAMEWORK FOR MOVING FORWARD IN THE PROMISE

## A PROPER PERSPECTIVE –

- *Philippians 3:13a - Brethren, I count now myself to have apprehended*
  - I/we have not apprehended (achieved/obtained) that for which I am apprehended of by Christ
  - My Purpose in Him (II Timothy 1:8-9)
  - Pressing on - Pursuing - to take hold - fulfill - that purpose for which Jesus has taken hold of/ purposed for me.



# OUR FRAMEWORK FOR MOVING FORWARD IN THE PROMISE

## MOVING FORWARD IN THE PROMISE IS A GROWING PROCESS–

- **2 Peter 1:3-8-** <sup>3</sup> *According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:*
  - <sup>4</sup> *Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*
  - <sup>5</sup> *And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;*
  - <sup>6</sup> *And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;*



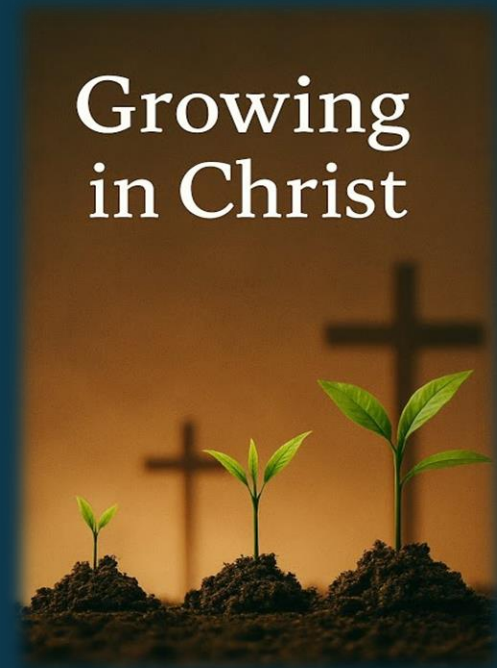
# OUR FRAMEWORK FOR MOVING FORWARD IN THE PROMISE

## MOVING FORWARD IN THE PROMISE IS A GROWING PROCESS–

➤ **2 Peter 1:3-8 - <sup>7</sup> And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.**

**<sup>8</sup> For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

➤ **1 Peter 5:10 - But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.**



# OUR FRAMEWORK FOR MOVING FORWARD IN THE PROMISE

## MOVING FORWARD IN THE PROMISE REQUIRES A SINGLE FOCUS

- ***Philippians 3:13b – but this ONE THING I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.***
- ***Hebrews 12:1-2 - <sup>1</sup> Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,***
- ***<sup>2</sup> Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.***



# OUR FRAMEWORK FOR MOVING FORWARD IN THE PROMISE

## MOVING FORWARD IN THE PROMISE REQUIRES A SINGLE FOCUS –

**‘The Prize’ is both the purpose and the result of The High Calling of God ‘in Christ Jesus.’ We should take God’s purpose in Calling us and Christ’s purpose in redeeming us as being our great objective/goal in life. God’s aims and our aims/goals should be identical:**

# ONENESS



# OUR FRAMEWORK FOR MOVING FORWARD IN THE PROMISE

- *Psalm 27:4 - One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

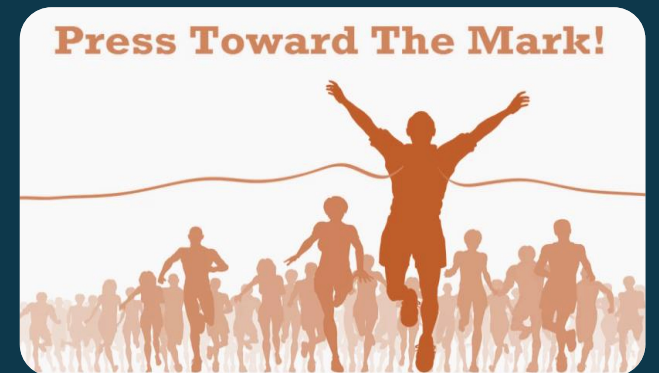
Thy aim, O Lord, is my aim, and I press toward the mark,' the only mark which will make life noble, and blessed - that I 'may be found in Christ, not having mine own righteousness, but that which is of God by faith.' For this we have all been created, guided, redeemed. If we carry this treasure out of life we shall carry all that is worth carrying.

**WHEN WE HAVE JESUS - ALL OF THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS/PROMISES ARE OURS! WHEN WE DON'T HAVE JESUS - NONE OF THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS/PROMISES ARE OURS!**

- *Ephesians 1:3 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.*

## LIFE APPLICATION

1. This is accomplished in us/through us as we walk/live in **COMPLETE OBEDIENCE TO THE WORD/WILL OF JESUS** (Phil 2:13)
2. An **INTENTIONAL DAILY COMMITMENT** to **THE STUDY - APPLYING - & PRACTICE OF THE WORD**
3. This **BUILDS FAITH** that empowers us to live according to The Word/Will of Jesus (Romans 10:17)
4. **PRAYER** connects with The Spiritual Resources of Jesus that aligns us in **ONENESS** with Jesus (I John 5:14 - 15)



## More About Jesus – Eliza E. Hewitt

*More about Jesus would I know,  
More of His grace to others show;  
More of His saving fullness see,  
More of His love who died for me.*

### Refrain:

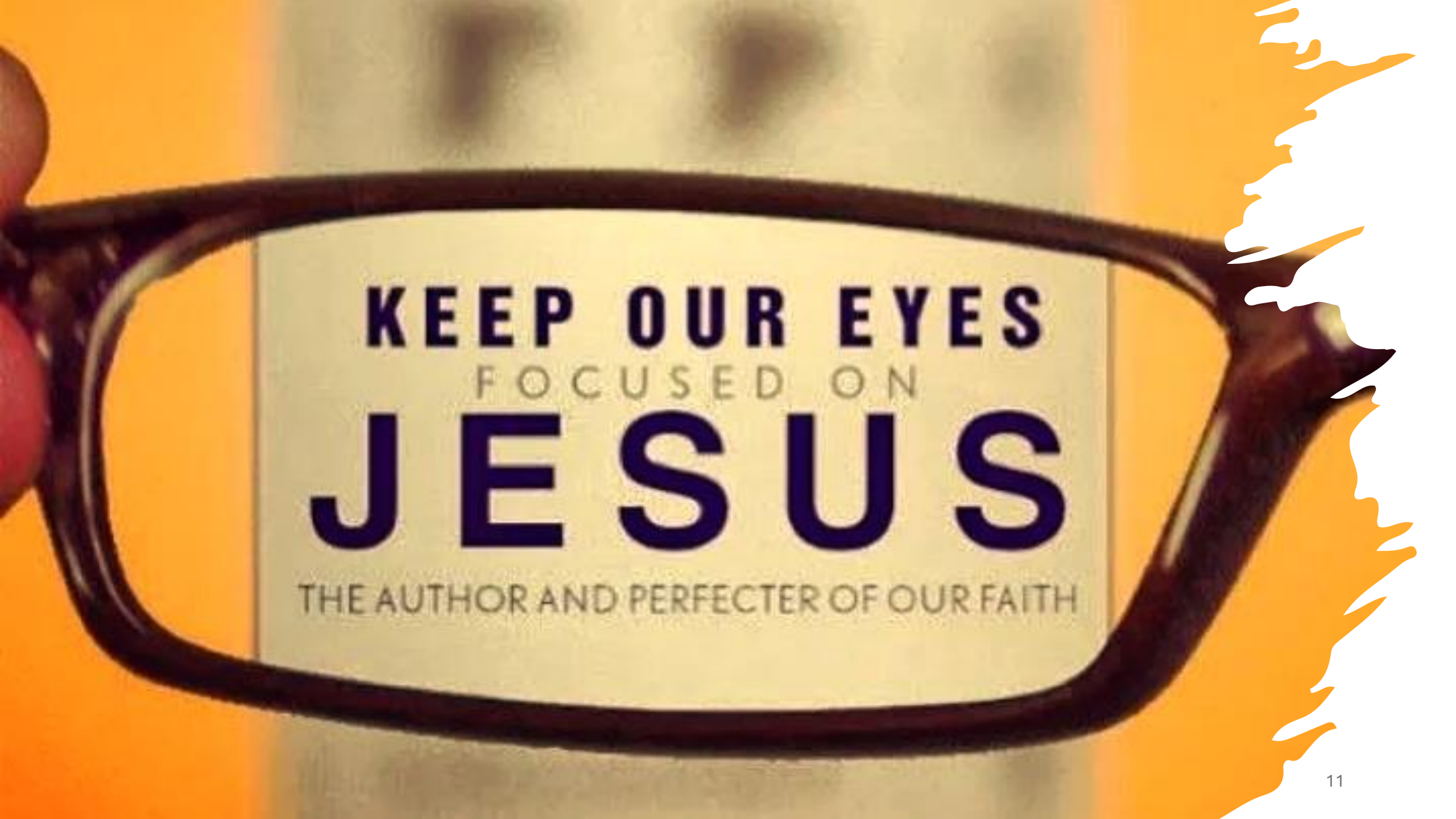
*More, more about Jesus,  
More, more about Jesus;  
More of His saving fullness see,  
More of His love who died for me.*

*More about Jesus let me learn,  
More of His holy will discern;  
Spirit of God, my teacher be,  
Showing the things of Christ to me.*



***More about Jesus, in His Word,  
Holding communion with my Lord;  
Hearing His voice in every line,  
Making each faithful saying mine.***

***More about Jesus on His throne,  
Riches in glory all His own;  
More of His kingdom's sure increase;  
More of His coming, Prince of Peace.***

A pair of dark-rimmed glasses is held in front of a light-colored background. The lens of the glasses contains a printed message. The text is centered and reads: "KEEP OUR EYES FOCUSED ON JESUS THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH". The words "KEEP OUR EYES" and "JESUS" are in a large, bold, dark blue font. "FOCUSED ON" is in a smaller, dark blue font. "THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH" is in a small, dark blue font.

**KEEP OUR EYES**  
FOCUSED ON  
**JESUS**

THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH