

# Press On Into Oneness



**“For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God’s way of making us right with himself depends on faith.”**

**The Apostle Paul | Philippians 3:8-9 (NLT)**

## **God calls us into oneness with himself.**

It seems to happen most every time my wife and I go out to eat... though we separately peruse the menu and don't say a thing to each other, we end up ordering the same meal. This is what 30 years of marriage can do to you! But it goes way beyond a food order. Have you ever noticed that many long-married couples start to look much alike? I always thought it was coincidence but it's actually been proven scientifically that the longer you are with someone, especially if it's a positive relationship, the more you look alike. After a long time, we develop like mannerisms, wrinkles form in the same places... even your gut biome becomes similar! Apparently, the combination of sharing common experiences, eating similarly, mimicry, and years of conversation lead to looking and thinking alike. There's an old saying, "Their history is written on their faces." Moral of the story? Choose your spouse wisely!

## **Extended time together leads to looking and becoming more alike.**

As the Apostle Paul spells out, God calls us to become one with him. This is not to say we are to become God any more than I could become my wife. God wants us to reflect him, his attributes, his values...the way he thinks...to become more alike.

## **Can others see God in your face?**

Paul goes on to give us the key to looking more like God. Faith. We must exercise our faith to become right with God, like God. This is not about study, but shared experiences with him. This is God's way to get us there. Yes, it all begins with a decision to enter into a personal relationship with God, but this is more like vows of marriage my wife and I made 30 years ago. Committed to each other, but not looking anything alike. It's the 30 years of experiencing life together that makes us alike....and this does not mean 30 years of watching TV together! It's years of conversation,

having kids, moving, job changes, working through difficult situations, trying new things... making Jumps in Faith, together, over a lifetime.

**We begin to look alike by making Jumps in Faith, together, over a lifetime.**

Have you taken a Jump of Faith lately? Paul was the first person to admit the truth regarding the stage of his relationship with Christ Jesus. He knew he was in the midst of an ongoing journey, not a passive one, a race to lean into, a series of Jumps in Faith to be carried on all of the way to the end.

*“I don’t mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.” The Apostle Paul| Philippians 3:12-14 (NLT)*

Interestingly, Paul implies that the past is past... Do your prior Jumps in Faith matter? Think about a race. If you’ve already run 13 miles of a marathon, do those first miles matter anymore? Certainly you can feel good about where you have come from, and you will build from the wisdom gained up to this point, but otherwise, not so much!

What matters most is what lies ahead, getting closer and closer to God. To reach oneness with God, we cannot stop along the course, have a cup of tea and admire how well we navigated the first 13 miles. It’s all about the next 13!

**Press on! Don’t stop taking Jumps of Faith.**

Paul says, keep pressing yourself to go forward so as not to become

complacent and miss out on God. Reach for a New Peak! Set your sights on your next Jump. Line it up with your Life Mission, God will be right there with you and you will begin to look more alike. Plus, think about the earthly fulfillment of doing more of what God has you here to do and the heavenly prize God is calling you to... The rewards are great!

**Press On Into Oneness!**

## Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

**"Faith Jumps aligned with my Life Mission lead me into oneness with God."**

"And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him."

Hebrews 11:6 (NLT)



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~ DAN B.

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## Adventuring with God

Latest Blog Posts



### Tremble

Early this spring, I noticed a doe and her two brand new fawns hanging in a sheltered corner of my yard. From that day forward, throughout the summer, I saw them regularly, each time bigger than before. I felt a bond form, like they were my own kids. So I was super excited to see them rush to

my bird feeder the other day.... [Keep reading](#)



## Tip of the Spear

I have a long-time friend who is a great servant. I call her a “Super Do Gooder” because she is over the top when it comes to helping others. I believe she is saved, but her faith is not apparent in what she does. What happens when we do works with no sign of Christ in the midst? Certainly, there is worldly good that happens, benefiting the recipients today. But, “Can that kind of works save anyone?”... [Keep reading](#)

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