

#### Part 1 - I have decided to ... GET CLOSER TO GOD.

#### **Scotty Priest**

January 5, 2025

#### Open with prayer.

### Get to Know You (10 Minutes)

• Share a time you have set a goal and attained it. What was the outcome and did that experience change you?

## **Observation & Discussion (30 Minutes)**

#### Philippians 3:12-14

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

Brothers 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,

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

- 1. In Philippians, what is the goal Paul is striving toward?
- 2. Paul acknowledges that he has not yet arrived but presses on. What does this tension teach us about the Christian life?
- 3. What goals would you like to press on towards in your own life?

- 4. Is there something in the past you would like to leave behind so you can focus on moving forward?
- 5. How can you apply the imagery and truth in the last verse to your life..."I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."?

## **Next Step** (10 Minutes)

#### Psalm 139:23-24

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

- Fill in the blank in the following question. My hunger and thirst for God is greater than my desire for \_\_\_\_?
- Is this something you would like to turn into a goal or something to strive towards?

## **Prayer Requests** (5 Minutes)

Pray with your group to close.

# Challenge

Join Journey Church in our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting. You can pick up a devotional guide at church or join us online at <a href="https://journeycolorado.com/21-days/">https://journeycolorado.com/21-days/</a>.