



 NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER  
May 3, 2026

**FORWARD NOT SETTLED**  
Pastor Dave Larson | Turlock  
Pastor Jeremy Moore | Patterson

*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 Je-sus 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. Philippians 4:12-14 (NLT)*

*We will not be a church that settles — we will be a church that moves forward.*

**1. Forward means RELEASING the past.**

• **Past FAILURES**

• **Past SUCCESSES**

*“But forget all that—it is nothing compared to what I am going to do. For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? Isaiah 43:18-19a (NLT)*

*“Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God.” Luke 9:62 (NLT)*

**2. Forward requires INTENTIONAL PURSUIT.**

• **FOCUS**

*Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path. Don't get sidetracked; keep your feet from following evil. Proverbs 4:25-27 (NLT)*

• **EFFORT**

• **PERSISTENCE**

**3. Forward is DRIVEN by a greater PURPOSE.**

*We are not settled.  
We are moving forward.  
We are stepping into NEXT.*



# NEXT

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**1. Forward means \_\_\_\_\_ the past.**

• **Past** \_\_\_\_\_

• **Past** \_\_\_\_\_

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**2. Forward requires \_\_\_\_\_.**

• \_\_\_\_\_

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• \_\_\_\_\_

• \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Forward is \_\_\_\_\_ by a greater \_\_\_\_\_.**

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# NEXT

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

May 3, 2026

### CONNECT

Have you ever landed a job, solidified a relationship, or completed a project that made you sit back and say, “I have arrived”, or “I’ve done it!”? How did that make you feel? What, if any-thing, changed afterward? Did you feel accomplished? Was there something still lacking?

### ENGAGE

What stood out to you the most from the message regarding the heart of God for us to not set-tle, but to keep moving forward in our relationship with Him?

### GROW

1. Why do you think complacency can be more dangerous than failure?
2. Have you ever found yourself “camping” in a past success or season of comfort? What did that look like?
3. Is there a past failure, hurt, or regret that has made it difficult for you to move forward?
4. Read Philippians 3:13–14. What do you think Paul meant by “forgetting what is behind”?
5. What distractions have recently pulled your focus away from what God is calling you to do?
6. In what area of your life do you feel God asking you to be more intentional right now?
7. Read about Peter walking on water in Matthew 14. What causes you to take your eyes off Jesus?
8. What comfort zone might be keeping you from stepping into God’s greater purpose?

### CHALLENGE:

Paul said, “one thing I do...” What’s the one thing you need to do to move forward? Not ten things. One thing. What’s your next step? This isn’t about inspiration—it’s about decision. Will you settle... or will you move forward? Will you cling to the past... or will you step into what’s ahead?