



Edward Christian Church

Homecoming '25

Don't Give Up—Press On
Gal 6:9 & Phil 3:13–14

~~Give Up~~

Homecoming 2025

Homecoming is a Special Time

- It's a time to look back/ remember where God has brought us from, to celebrate the saints who labored before us, / to look forward with hope to what God will yet do.
- As we gather today, we are reminded that the church is not built on one generation alone—it is built on the faithfulness of many who refused to give up.
 - Paul's words in Galatians 6:9 speak directly to us on this Homecoming Sunday: *"Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."*
- That's the story of this church. Through trials and triumphs, through lean years and fruitful years, God has sustained us because faithful men and women kept sowing seeds of prayer, service, and love.



For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting:

HOMECOMING

and His truth endureth to all generations. Psalm 100:5




Homecoming = Memory + Momentum

- **Looking Back with Gratitude**
- **Looking Forward with Hope**
- ***Don't Give Up—Press On***

For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting:

HOMECOMING

and His truth endureth to all generations. Psalm 100:5

A background image of a field of grain, likely wheat or barley, at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and grey. In the foreground, a single stalk of grain is in sharp focus, its head curved and its awns spread out. The rest of the field is blurred, creating a sense of depth.

Let us not
be weary in

doing
GOOD

for we will
reap *in due*
season

if we
DON'T
Give Up

Galatians 6:9

Let us not
be weary in

• **Galatians 6:9 NLT**

“So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up”

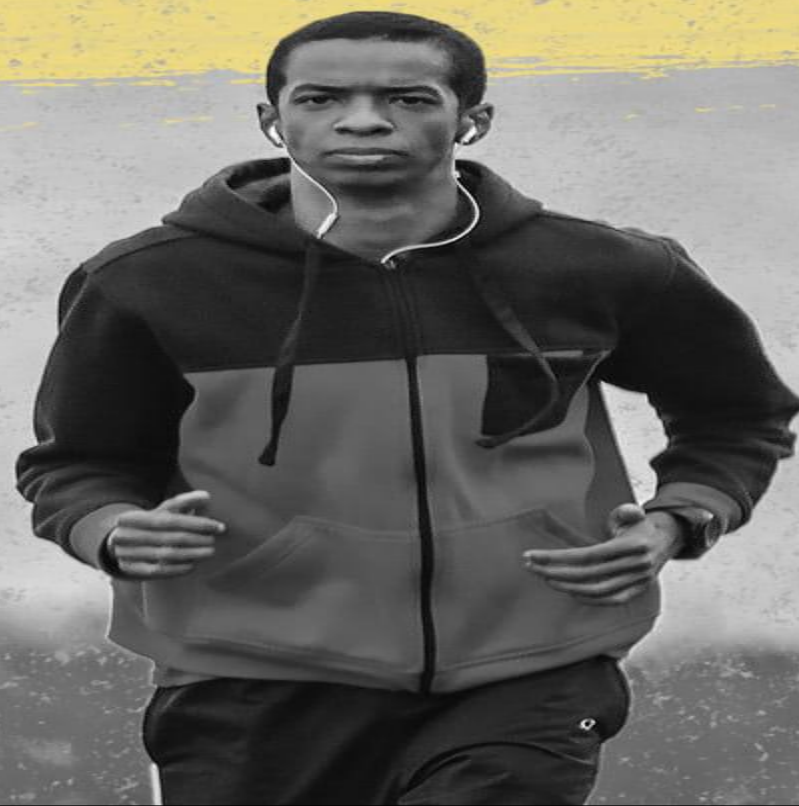
• **Phil 3:13–14**

“Forgetting what lies behind / straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Give Up

Galatians 6:9

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 3:14

#1: The Weariness of the Past

The Caution

- **Doing Good Can Make Us Weary (Gal. 6:9)**

- **Past Struggles:**

- ...Lean Years, Hard Work, Sacrifice**

- **Saints Before Us Pressed Through**

- ***Phil. 3:13 – Forgetting what lies behind***


~~Curve Up~~



**• Florence Chadwick:
Gave Up Swim ...
...Because Of Fog, Not Fatigue**

**• Sometimes it's Not the Distance
...but Discouragement that Makes Us Quit**

**Application:
Don't Let the "Fog" of Discouragement...
...Blind You to God's Shore**

A person is seen from behind, looking out over a vast landscape at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the scene. The person is wearing a blue shirt. The landscape consists of rolling hills and mountains, with some buildings visible in the distance. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue.

Keep the faith.
Everything happens in due
season.

Don't rush your seasons.
Be consistent.
Be patient.

Every blessing with your
name on it is on the way!

#2: The Promise of the Present

The Challenge

“In due season we will reap” -Gal. 6:9

- **Homecoming = Proof of Harvest**
- **We are the Fruit of Prayers and Sacrifices of...
...Past Generations**
- ***Phil. 3:14 – Press on toward the prize***

- **Bamboo: unseen growth for years,
...then sudden breakthrough**
- **God's Work Often Hidden Until The Right Time**

Application:

- **Trust God's Timing...**
...your "*Due Season*" is Coming

**Every blessing with your
name on it is on the way!**

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“

"Life's struggles are the wings that help us soar to our highest potential."

”



#3: The Perseverance of the Future

The Condition:

“If we do not give up”

- **Perseverance Bridges Planting and Reaping**
- **Pressing Forward = Active, Intentional Faith**
- ***Phil. 3:14 – Straining forward, pressing on***

It takes a lot
of courage
to push through
hard times.

Never give up.

Good things
are coming
your way.

It takes a lot
of courage

- **John Stephen Akhwari, 1968 Olympics:
...Finished Last But Refused to Quit**

***“My country did not send me to start the race,
...but to finish it.”***

Application:

- **God Didn't Bring Us This Far To Quit Now**

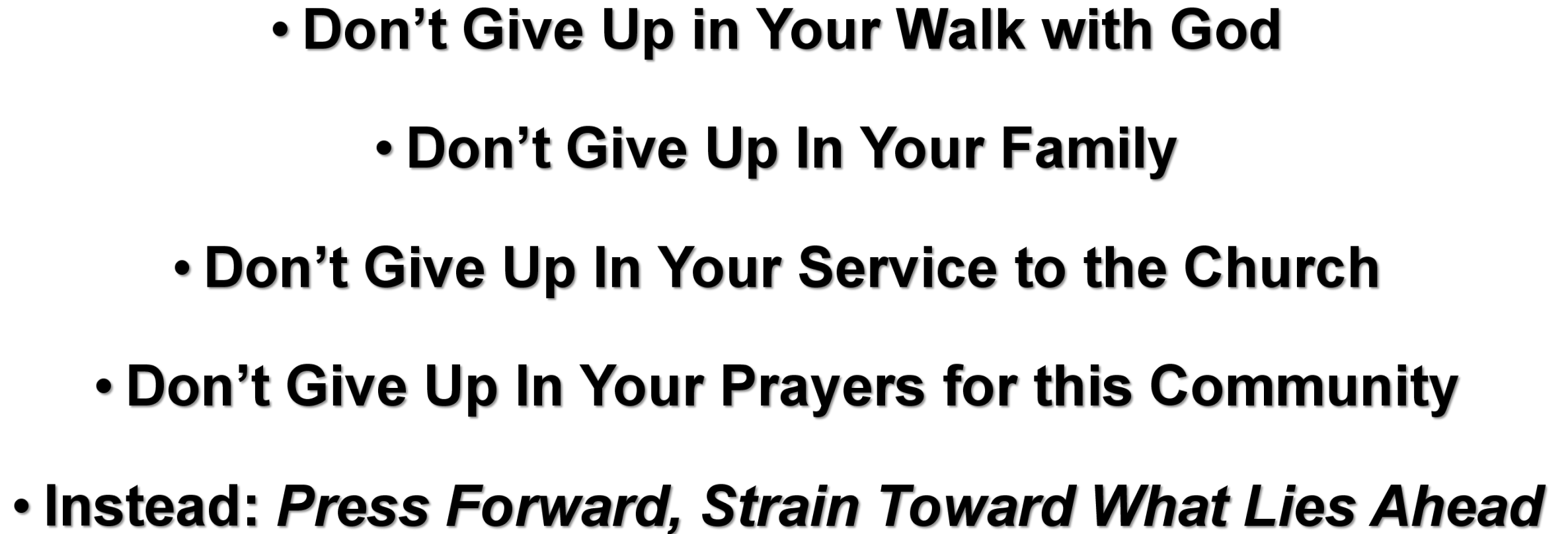
your way.

“

"Life's struggles are the wings that help us soar to our highest potential."

”



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- **Don't Give Up in Your Walk with God**
 - **Don't Give Up In Your Family**
 - **Don't Give Up In Your Service to the Church**
 - **Don't Give Up In Your Prayers for this Community**
 - **Instead: *Press Forward, Strain Toward What Lies Ahead***

"but as for you,
BE STRONG and
DO NOT GIVE UP
for your work
will be rewarded"

2 CHRONICLES 15:7

Winston Churchill:

***“Never Give In...
...Never Give In.
...Never, Never, Never.”***

Galatians 6:9 & Philippians 3:14

***“Let us not grow weary... In due season we will reap... I
press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call
of God in Christ Jesus.”***

"And let us not grow
WEARY OF DOING
GOOD, FOR IN DUE SEASON
WE WILL REAP
if we do not grow weary

~~NEVER~~

THINGS
THROUGH
Christ
WHO

Never
STRENGTHEN
ME
Good things

as for you,
STRONG and
DO NOT GIVE UP
for your work
will be rewarded"

2 CHRONICLES 15:7

- **Faith Doesn't Grow In Comfort...**
...It Grows In Waiting.
- **When God Delays...**
...He's Developing Something Deeper In You.
- **Don't Give Up Before The Harvest...**
...Keep Watering The Promise

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" -Gal 6:9

ME
Good things

will be rewarded
2 CHRONICLES 15:7