



STATE of the ★★ CHURCH

Philippians 3:12-16

12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. 13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, 14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

15 Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you. 16 Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.

"Not often, but every once in a while, God brings us to a major turning point—a great crossroads in our life. From that point we either go toward a more and more slow, lazy, and useless Christian life, or we become more on fire, giving our utmost for His highest." —Oswald Chambers

Insanity: Doing the same things over and over again but expecting different results.

Providence Baptist Church (2013-2018)

Baptisms	6 per year (35 members per baptism)
General Fund Giving	\$219,000 per year
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering	\$21,225
Annie Armstrong Offering	\$5,513
Sunday School Attendance	Same
Worship Attendance	Down 10-15%

Good Overall giving including mission giving has increased.

Bad We are plateaued.

Ugly Doing the same things will lead to sharp decline for the coming years.

1. A Call to Authenticity (vs. 12-13)

Do you feel like you can share any struggle, any heartbreak, or any problem with a small group of people at PBC?

2. A Call to the Future (vs. 13b)

"to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some." 1 Corinthians 9:22

- a. We need to have a renewed focus on excellence.
- b. We need to make future growth more of a priority instead of our personal preferences.
- c. We need to ensure that we are doing everything we can to reach young families/children.

"Cross-generational leaders and churches are able to reach around, ahead, and behind generationally." -Ronnie Floyd

3. A Call to Community (vs. 14-16)

- a. We need to commit to use our time, treasure, and talents faithfully in the local church.
- b. The cliques that have developed have to go.
- c. Apathy must be crucified with Christ.

Apathy: Lack of interest, enthusiasm, and concern

"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18

"The future is as bright as the promises of God." -Adoniram Judson