Date: 12/28/19

Title: This One Thing I Do

Theme: The most important goal in life is getting to know Jesus.

Object: Candle, funnel, fire stick to light candle.

Text: Philippians 3:13-14 (KJV) This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

I’m so glad you made it to church today!

How many came to church in a car? And who was driving the car?

Now when you started out in the car, did the driver say, “Let’s just drive around for awhile and see where we end up?” No!!

The driver knew exactly where he was going and how to get there. There was no time for wrong turns. We wanted to get to church on time, so we took the fastest way and came right to church.

We had a goal, and that goal was to get to church.

Have you ever seen passenger planes that fly way up above the clouds?

What if a pilot took off and flew out over the Atlantic Ocean and then couldn’t decide where he wanted to go? He would fly north for a while and south for a while, east for a while, west for a while, fly in circles for a while… What would happen to that plane?

A pilot has only one goal in mind: to get straight to the particular airport he’s aiming for.

Now listen! Having a goal and aiming for the goal is not only important for driving a car and flying a plane, it’s important for the way we live too.

In order to be a real success in life, we need to have worthwhile goals and we need to aim our lives at those goals.

Well I brought something with me this morning that I hope will help us understand the importance of aiming at the goal.

[Illustration: Set up and light candle. Goal: blow out candle. Who thinks they can blow this candle out? Select volunteer. Blow through small end of funnel. The air comes out the big end and is not aimed at the goal (the flame). Now blow through the large end. The air is aimed at the candle and blows out the flame.]

The apostle Paul was a great Christian and the greatest missionary in the Bible.

You know why? He had a goal and he aimed his life at that goal.

Let me read our Bible verse again: This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

He says, “This one thing I do…”

He doesn’t go off in 10 different directions trying to do 10 different things.

He wants to focus on one thing just like the air coming out of the small end of the funnel.

He has found a worthwhile goal and he is aiming his life at reaching that goal.

Paul looks at life as if it is a race, and his goal is to reach the finish line.

And you know what’s at the finish line? Do you know what the prize is?

Jesus is there, and the prize is to be with his friend Jesus forever.

Paul’s goal in life was to be a Christian: to have Jesus as his Savior and Lord and Friend, and to live forever with Him.

Listen kids, you can look all your life, but you will never find a more important goal than the one Paul found: To know Jesus Christ as your Savior and to become His friend forever.

And what should you do when you find an important goal? [Hold up funnel]

“This one thing I do…” We need to aim our lives at reaching the goal.

How many, this morning, would like to aim their lives at getting to know Jesus and becoming His friend?