

Sermon Outline

Speaker : Rev Peter Chan

Text : **Philippians 3:12–21**

Title : **Leaving, Labouring, and Longing**

Introduction

The Circle Game – Joni Mitchell
*And the seasons they go round and round
And the painted ponies go up and down
We're captive on the carousel of time
We can't return we can only look behind
From where we came
And go round and round and round
In the circle game*

Leaving Behind – Dissatisfied with the Status Quo

¹³ Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect...

¹⁴ Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it....

Labouring Hard – Determined to Strain Forward

¹² ...but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

¹³ ...But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead. ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Longing Heavenward – Desiring Spiritual and Heavenly Realities

²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Truth for Life:

Are you leaving behind the past – your losses, failures, pains, and sorrows?

Are you labouring hard to move on – are you clearer of your kingdom purpose in life and more committed to pursuing it?

Are you *still* looking heavenward – clinging to the unswerving hope in Christ, endearing your treasures with Him in heaven?