



## Taking Hold

New Year's Day Sunday Brunch

Tim Gill - January 1, 2017

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### **3 ways to take hold of the Man, the Message, and the Moment:**

#### **1. I keep on believing God has a plan for my life.**

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

**Philippians 3:12 (NIV)**

*I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

**Philippians 3:14 (NIV)**

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*God picked you out as his from the very start. Think of it: included in God's original plan of salvation by the bond of faith in the living truth. This is the life of the Spirit he invited you to through the message we delivered, in which you get in on the glory of our Master, Jesus Christ. <sup>15-17</sup> So, friends, take a firm stand, feet on the ground and head high. Keep a tight grip on what you were taught, whether in personal conversation or by our letter. May Jesus himself and God our Father, who reached out in love and surprised you with gifts of unending help and confidence, put a fresh heart in you, invigorate your work, enliven your speech.*

**2 Thessalonians 2:13-15 (MSG)**

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*Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*

**1 Timothy 6:12 (NIV)**

#### **2. I tackle the areas where I need to improve.**

*I don't mean to say I am perfect. I haven't learned all I should even yet, but I keep working toward that day when I will finally be all that Christ saved me for and wants me to be. <sup>13</sup> No, dear brothers, I am **still** not all I should be, but I am bringing all my energies to bear on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God is calling us up to heaven because of what Christ Jesus did for us.*

**Philippians 3:12-14 (TLB)**

#### **3. I do the things that will stretch my faith.**

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

**Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV)**

- I have to **let go** in order to take hold.
- I have to **stretch** in order to take hold.

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**What will I take hold of this year?**

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