



STANDING FIRM

By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it. She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son. Greet one another with the kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ. 1 PETER 5:12-14

Standing firm is all about _____.

You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock. Isaiah 26:3-4

WHEN OUR TRUST IS **LOW**, OUR RESPONSE TO THE TEST IS ...

- paralysis (apathy)
- retreat (defeated)
- control (running in the wrong direction)

WHEN OUR TRUST IS **HIGH**, WE STAND FIRM.

How do we _____ our belief?

We lean into His Word and _____.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalm 119:105

We _____ with brothers and sisters to help us keep going.

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

We remember that God's grace is _____.

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 2 Corinthians 12:9

CAN I STILL TRUST THE LORD WHEN _____ ?

Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" Mark 9:24

Peace to all of you who are in Christ. 1 PETER 5:14b

HOME GROUP

Lesson + Devotional

Before you begin, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide your study.

1. Read 1 Peter 5:12-14. What do you learn about the early church from the words *brother* (v. 12), *son* (v. 13) and *kiss of love* (v. 14)?

2. The pastor talked in his sermon about our responses when our trust in God is low. Which of those three responses do you relate to the most, and why?

- paralysis (apathy)
- retreat (defeated)
- control (running in the wrong direction)

3. From the sermon notes, what areas of your own belief do you need to strengthen?

4. Are there any other takeaways from the sermon you'd like to see applied to your own life? How can you do that?

5. The concluding paragraph of personal notes from Peter is typical of salutations found at the end of New Testament epistles. One of the interesting things about these salutations is the abundance of doctrinal and practical truths that are interwoven in them. Make a list of those truths appearing in this short passage..

6. What have you learned about Jesus in this study of ____ that sheds light on who God is?

7. What truth in the book of 1 Peter seems most significant to you?

8. What would you like to do or pray about this truth? How do you want it to affect your life?

HELPFUL Quotes

If you had been a member of the original Greek-speaking recipients of this letter, you would have noticed a sudden change in 1 Peter 5:12. The style of writing would have suddenly shifted from the elegant, flowing handwriting of a cultured composer to the large, deliberate script of a rugged fisherman. The grammar, syntax and vocabulary immediately change. At this point it becomes obvious that Peter's secretary, Silas, has handed the pen to the aged apostle, who personally concludes his letter with his own calloused hand. Besides noting that his loyal brother in ministry, Silas (Silvanus), had assisted in writing the letter, Peter's final lines reaffirm the overall exhortation. Because we hold to the true faith in a trustworthy God, we are to stand firm in God's grace (5:12). In the midst of all oppression, mistreatment, temptation, or trials, we can endure with hope because of the sustaining power of God. In short, through Christ we can have unwavering hope. - *Chuck Swindoll*

When an unbeliever goes through suffering, he loses his hope; but for a believer, suffering only increases his hope. "Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope" (Rom 5:3-4 NIV). God builds character and brightens hope when a believer trusts Him and depends on His grace. The result is that God receives the glory forever and ever. - *Warren Wiersbe*

YOUR NEXT STEP AT Christ Chapel



Connect and Belong

New or returning, fill out a Connect Card and experience life together at Christ Chapel.

Together in Prayer

We want to pray with and for you this week as we go to God together.



Partner with Us by Giving

Be a part of what God is doing near and far by giving to local and global ministry partners.

Upcoming Events

Join in to grow your faith, make disciples, and reach those who do not know or walk with Jesus.



A WONDERFUL Offer

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Admit that you're a sinner, separated from a holy and perfect God.
(Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Understand that the penalty for your sin is death – eternal separation from God and all that is good.
(Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Believe that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and conquered death by rising from the dead.
(Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior from sin and death and your provider of true and eternal life.
(Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)

You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in him alone as the only way to be reconciled to you. Thank you for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen.



We'd love to know about your decision. Scan the QR code to learn more about following Jesus!

_____ [you fill in this blank] _____
SERMON BLANKS: belief, strengthen, listen, unify, everything,