



VBS FOR OUR ADULTS

I'M LISTENING:
LEARNING TO HEAR
GOD'S VOICE IN A
NOISY WORLD

JULY 22ND - 26TH
6:30PM AT THE CYC



BECOME A MEMBER OF COP!

REGISTER for our **JULY 27TH CLASS** on the Events Page @ cop.church



WATER BAPTISM

SATURDAY AUGUST 10TH
5pm at the Cathedral
CLASS: Sunday August 4th 9am

To sign up go to the **EVENTS PAGE @ cop.church**




Celebration Times
Wednesday 6:30pm
Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 9:00am & 11:30am

The Cathedral
2223 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95816

Children And Youth Complex (CYC) And Mailing Address
2150 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95816

First Time Guests Text Your Full Name to:
916.581.2676
Stop by the Connection Center in the Fellowship Hall to receive your gift

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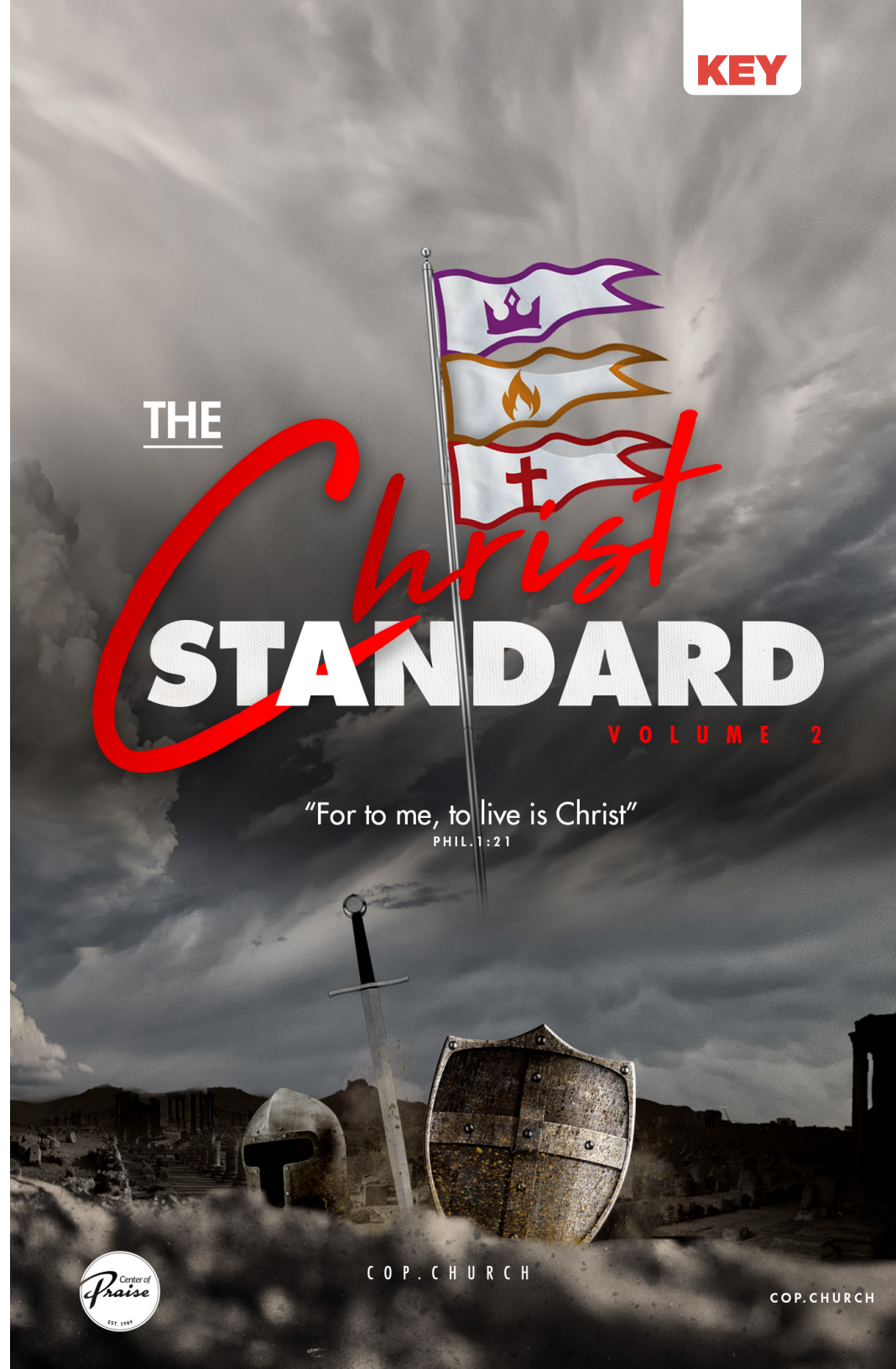


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THE *Christ* STANDARD

VOLUME 2

"For to me, to live is Christ"
PHIL. 1:21





VOLUME 2 / Week 3
HEART PROTECTION
SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 6:10-17,
Genesis 15:1-6

STANDARD: a level of quality or attainment. An idea or thing used as a measure, norm, or model in comparative evaluations. An ensign of war; a staff with a flag or colors.

THE SECOND PIECE

In 2 Timothy 3 the Apostle Paul recounts many of the trials he faced during his first missionary journey, but states *“out of them all the Lord rescued me!” (2 Tim. 3:10-11)*. The Lord delivered and rescued Paul through His power, equipping him with His “full armor” (Eph. 6:13). He can and will do the same for us.

The first piece of armor listed in Ephesians 6:14 is the belt of truth which we learned is necessary to **connect** to and offset the weight of the second piece, *“the breastplate of righteousness.”* “Truth” is the Word of God, the very person and nature of Christ Himself. (Jn. 14:6, 17:14-17). As we now turn our attention to the breastplate which is designed to cover the chest and **protect** a warrior’s vital organs, we must also seek to better understand righteousness.

PROTECTED BY RIGHTEOUSNESS

Righteousness is defined as *the condition acceptable to God*. Titus 3:5 states, *“He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy...”* Our condition cannot be changed by our good deeds (Is. 64:6), but only by God’s **mercy** and the power of the Holy Spirit. This truth (belt) is the Word of God. When we believe in who Jesus is as our Savior and Lord, then and **only** then, is the condition of righteousness attributed to us and accepted by God.

In Genesis 15 Abram received the promise from God that he would not only be a father but that his descendants would be as the stars in the heavens. (Gen. 15:4-5). Verse 6 states, *“And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.” (ESV)*.

Though the enemy attacks our character with lies, deceit and bad memories of our past, the Lord reminds us that our righteousness is a matter of **right believing** not right behaving. The heart of the believer is transformed and protected by the righteousness of God established in the truth of His Word.

FACTORPOINTS

HE’S HERE - WORSHIP

Worship the Lord for making you righteous through the act of believing by faith in Jesus Christ and not weighing your works on the scales of good and bad.

HE KNOWS - LEARN

Review last week’s teaching on the belt of truth. In light of this teaching, how are TRUTH and RIGHTEOUSNESS connected?

HE’S ABLE - SERVE

Serve and obey in faith knowing that you do good works because YOU ARE ALREADY RIGHTEOUS not to become righteous.

