



The Bible uses lots of word pictures to teach us God's truths. One of the most famous depictions is that of this life being a spiritual battle zone for believers. We're told to put on "*the full armor of God*" (Ephesians 6:11) in order to stand up strong against Satan's attacks upon us. Jude, the half-brother of Jesus, says the same thing, but less poetically, when he states, "*Hey - fight for the faith*" (Jude 3). The question is: Why do we need to fight for our faith? The answer is: *If you don't fight for your faith in Christ every day, you will one day wake-up to realize you have lost your faith in Christ.* Jude also makes it clear that this *fight* we're in is no mere shadow boxing contest. Rather, we are going up against "faith foes" which are so real and powerful that he is compelled to give us an exact description of what these conniving spiritual enemies are all about. We must recognize them and defeat them when we see them! In this study of Jude 3-4, we're being challenged to "put on the gloves" and "get into the ring." It is time to join the fight!

DEFINING "THE FAITH"

The all-encompassing _____ of _____ revealed in

the _____ of _____ .
 (Acts 2:42; 2 Thessalonians 3:6; Timothy 1:13-14)

THE NATURE OF THE FAITH

(v. 3)

1. Being obedient to The Faith is how you'll sense...
2. Knowing The Faith is how you'll experience ...
3. Fighting for The Faith is something you've got to do ...
4. The Faith has been hand delivered to you by God ...

THE FOES TO THE FAITH

1. (v. 4) They can be in your life and ...
2. (v. 4) They are marked by God for ...
3. (v. 4) They refuse to let Jesus be their ...
4. (v. 4) They falsely teach that grace is ...
5. (v. 4) They seek to diminish and destroy ...

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

_____ to The Faith

_____ for The Faith

_____ in The Faith

_____ to the Lord of The Faith

FOR THOUGHT AND TALK

In your small group take 5-10 minutes to review the main points of Pastor John's message. Discuss the following questions, taking your time as the Spirit leads, realizing you don't have to cover them all.

1. Last week you began group with one or two people sharing how they came to faith in Jesus. Have two more share how they came to faith, and what Jesus means to them today.
2. As followers of Jesus Christ, "**The Faith**" is our **Teaching** (Acts 2:42), our **Tradition** (2 Thessalonians 3:6), and our **Treasure** (2 Timothy 1:13-14). What do each one of these straight-from-Scripture terms mean when applied to the faith that Jude is talking about? In other words, how is the faith our teaching? In what ways does it set our traditions in life? Why is it to be treasured? Even more personal, how has it proven its preciousness to you lately?
3. Take a second look at the 4 aspects of the Nature of The Faith that **Jude 3** talks about. How will being obedient to the faith help you grasp more of God's love for you? How does having a stronger understanding of the faith help you be more assured of your salvation in Christ? And by the way, how does having this assurance make you feel? Why is it so important that we are fighting for the faith, and what are some ways we need to go about it?
4. **Jude 4** states that there are false teachers in the Church that are often unrecognized by us. That is scary! Have you had any personal experiences with them? How can we recognize them? What are some of their most common teachings? One of the things they will do is diminish our love & appreciation for Jesus. Without being judgmental, and recognizing various personality types, how does what these false teachers do figure in to the lack of focus, feeling & expression that many Christians exhibit during times of worship? Read aloud **Philippians 2:10** - *At the name of Jesus every knee will bow ... and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* What is the Holy Spirit speaking to your heart as you read this?