

FEARLESS
How to be a Strong Christian
March 12, 2023

1 Thessalonians 3:1-5 So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ, **to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, so that no one would be unsettled by these trials.** For you know quite well that we are destined for them. In fact, when we were with you, **we kept telling you that we would be persecuted.** And it turned out that way, as you well know. For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in **some way the tempter had tempted you** and that our labors might have been in vain.

1. _____.

How to endure to the end:

- Keep the faith in the midst of _____.

1 Thessalonians 3:2-3 We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ, **to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, so that no one would be unsettled by these trials.**

James 1:2-3 Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your **faith is tested**, your endurance **has a chance to grow.**

- Avoid the _____.

1 Thessalonians 3:5 I was afraid that in **some way the tempter had tempted you** and that our labors might have been in vain.

1 Peter 5:8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

1 Thessalonians 3:7-10 Therefore, brothers and sisters, **in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith.** For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord. How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and **supply what is lacking in your faith.**

- Be around _____ of faith.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

- Never stop growing in the _____.

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1 Thessalonians 3:11-13 Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. **May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.**

2. _____.

1 Thessalonians 4:1-2 As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Ways to be an example of the Gospel:

- _____ sexual immorality.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 It is God's will that **you should be sanctified**: that you should **avoid sexual immorality**; that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God...

Romans 6:1-2 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? **By no means!** We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

- Live a life of _____.

1 Thessalonians 4:6-8 ...and that in this matter **no one should wrong or take advantage** of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction **does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.**

- Love your _____.

1 Thessalonians 4:9-10 Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. And in fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, **to do so more and more...**

- _____ hard.

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 ...and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and **work with your hands**, just as we told you, so that your daily life may **win the respect of outsiders** and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

Walk Away: In the times we live, the Christian life is a life of _____ in the faith and a call to live as a Christ-like _____.

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