

Building Up One Another

**How do we build up one another?
¿Cómo nos construimos unos a otros?**

1. Let us pray in the _____.
Oremos en el _____.

Jude 1:20 (Judas 1:20)

Jude 1:19 (Judas 1:19)

Galatians 5:16-17 (Gálatas 5:16-17)

Ephesians 6:18 (Efesios 6:18)

2. Let's keep ourselves in God's _____.
Conservémonos en el _____ de Dios.

Jude 1:21 (Judas 1:21)

Jude 1:12 (Judas 1:12)

1 Juan 3:16-17 (1 Juan 3:16-17)

3. Let's hold one another _____.
Exigámonos mutuamente _____.

Jude 1:22-23 (Judas 1:22-23)

Jude 1:16 (Judas 1:16)

Galatians 6:1-2 (Gálatas 6:1-2)

James 5:19-20 (Santiago 5:19-20)



Life Group Discussion Questions

July 12-19

Scripture: Jude 1:17-25

Jude was most likely the half-brother of Jesus. Mark 6:3 indicates that Jesus had four half-brothers: James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon. Before the resurrection of Jesus, these brothers did not believe that Jesus was the Messiah. However, after the resurrection, they put their faith in Christ and joined the disciples (Acts 1:14).

Initially, Jude wanted to write about the salvation that all Christians share. However, moved by the Spirit, he decided to write a letter encouraging Christians to “contend for the faith” (1:3). He knew that false teachers were leading Christians astray. So, he wrote a letter that would help Christians defend their faith against these false teachers.

In verses 4-16, Jude gives us a graphic description of the false teachers, their sinful lifestyles, and their coming judgment. But in the last part of the letter, Jude tells us what to do about it. In verse 17, he says, “remember the words that were spoken beforehand by the apostles.” We can’t defend our faith unless we know what the Bible says. Then, in verse 20, he tells us to “build yourselves up in your most holy faith.” And in the remaining verses, he tells us how we can build ourselves up in the faith.

Read Jude 1:17-25

1. What did Jude encourage his readers to remember in verse 17?

Michael Green notes,

Remember! It is the first imperative that Jude has used, and it heads a whole cluster of them in this concluding section. On “remember” see verse 5 and 2 Peter 1:12-13; 3:1. Jude points out that there is nothing in the current apostasy which could not have been expected. The apostles had foretold it... Appeal to apostolic teaching would be very right and proper in one, like Jude, who was not an apostle, and seems to have been a very modest man (see v. 1). (Green, 207)

2. According to verse 18, what did the apostles predict? (1:18)

3. What did the apostle Peter predict in 2 Peter 3:2-3?

Gary Holloway writes,

The apostolic warning calls the false teachers “scoffers” or “mockers,” a word (ἐμπαίκτης, *empaiktēs*) used often in the Old Testament to describe the ungodly (Psalms 1:1; 35:16; Proverbs 1:22; 9:7-8; 13:1; 14:6; 19:25-29). These teachers have scoffed at Christ (vv. 4, 15), at authority (v. 8), at angels (v. 8), and at anything they do not understand (v. 10). Rejecting proper authority, they are left with their own ungodly desires (see v. 16). (Holloway, 165)

4. How did Jude describe these scoffers in verse 19?

5. According to verse 20, what should we do to build ourselves up?

David Helm comments,

It feels almost as if Jude has grabbed us by the collar, pulled us out of the ancient past (vv. 5-16) straight through the recent past (vv. 17-19), and set us down firmly in the present with great force and decided intention. From this point on, he has one thing on his mind. He is looking us squarely in the eye and is speaking with a renewed sense of urgency regarding his great theme. “Listen to me,” says Jude. “I’m going to tell you with staccato-like urgency just what it means to contend for the faith, and especially how you are to go about doing it.” (Helm, 323)

6. What do you think it means to “pray in the Spirit”? (1:20; see also Eph. 6:18-20; Acts 4:31)

7. What did Jude tell Christians to do in verse 21?

The command to “keep yourselves in God’s love” includes three ideas. First, it is a recognition and reliance on the fact that God loves us (John 3:16; 1 John 4:10). Second, it is obedience to the greatest commandment, “Love the Lord your God...” (Matt. 22:37). Third, it is loving one another in the same way that Jesus loves us (John 13:34-35).

8. According to verse 21, what should we be waiting for?

9. To whom are we told to be merciful in verse 22?

10. What is Jude talking about when he tells us to “snatch others from the fire” in verse 23?

11. What are we told to hate in verse 23? What does that mean?

Holloway observes,

These verses clearly show the responsibility that faithful Christians have toward those who are confused about the faith or even living contrary to it. Contending for the faith does not call for treating others harshly. One cannot fight for the faith without having the attitude of the one in whom our faith rests, the one who came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). The faithful are to do all they can in a spirit of gentleness and mercy to restore others to faith, and yet they must be cautious or they too will fall prey to temptation (Galatians 6:1-2). (Holloway, 169)

12. According to verse 24, what is God able to do for us? How is this connected to the purpose of the letter in verse 3?

13. How did Jude encourage Christians in the last two verses of his letter?

Holloway writes,

Jude moves them to courage by ending his letter with praise for the loving, powerful God who sustains believers. Christians must contend for the faith (v. 3), but they rely on God's strength for the fight, not on their own. Defense ends in praise. As Jude began his letter by calling them [*tēreō*] "kept by Jesus Christ," so here, using a different [stronger] Greek word (*φυλάσσω*, *phylassō*), he ends by praising the God who keeps them. (Holloway, 169)

14. What helps you to be built up in your faith?

15. When was the last time you heard that someone was praying for you? Why were they praying for you?

16. How can we keep ourselves in God's love?

17. What can we do to hold one another accountable spiritually?

18. When and how will you praise God this week?

Sources cited:

Green, Michael. *2 Peter and Jude*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2009.
Helm, David R. *1–2 Peter and Jude*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2015.
Holloway, Gary. *James & Jude*. Joplin, MO: College Press, 1996.