

Week 10- "Stand Firm"

Christianity offers us an incredible opportunity to read documents written by people who knew Jesus. They wrote first hand accounts of what Jesus said and what He did. In this series, we are reading a letter written to the Ephesians by a guy named Paul. In this week's message, Paul concludes his letter encouraging his readers to stand firm on the foundation of the Gospel and remember that an ability to stand comes from Christ alone.

1. What stood out to you from the message?

Read Ephesians 6:10-18

Paul reminds us that the foundation that we stand on is the Gospel: That even though we are more sinful than we ever dared believe, we are more loved than we ever dared hope, and in Christ we are more whole than we ever dared imagine.

- 2. When have you experienced a version of Christianity that tells you to have strong faith in all circumstances?
- 3. What does it say about God's heart for you that He doesn't call you to be strong for Him in your own strength, but instead through Christ gives you the grace to stand firm?
- 4. It seems as if Paul is introducing the idea that the enemy's primary role is to pull you away from the foundation of the Gospel. When have you experienced the enemy's schemes in your own life?
- 5. Through the analogy of putting on the armor Paul is reminding you to relive the Gospel everyday. What do you think this practically looks like?

- 6. Why is it so hard to trust Christ in all circumstances and how can you lean into the Holy Spirit for help when it's difficult to trust Him?
- 7. How can this group help remind you to relive the Gospel everyday?

Paul closes out his letter to the Ephesians by affirming all that he has already said: even in the face of a real enemy who wants to distort the message of Christianity, he calls us back to the Gospel. Paul invites us to sit in the reality that Christ has done it all for us, He has given a new identity, a new nature, and His Spirit to live in us. It is from sitting with Christ that we can begin to walk differently, because we are walking from a place of what Christ has done for us, and we can stand firm on that truth.