

WATCH & PRAY

TODAY'S TEXT  [Mark 14:38](#) and selected Scriptures.

Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak.

How do we stand firm in a world that is hostile to Christianity?

WATCH

- Watch for Satan's _____.
- Watch for what God is _____.

PRAY

- Pray for _____ in your time of need.
- Pray that you don't _____ into temptation.
- Pray for _____.
- Pray against satanic _____.
- Pray for your _____.

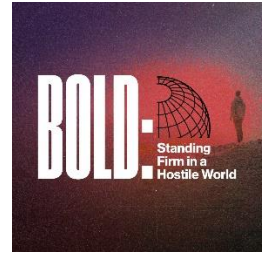
Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: BOLD – Standing Firm In A Hostile World

Message: Part 1 – Watch & Pray

Speaker: Shawn Vandop

Date: May 21, 2023



Connect (30min)

*Break into groups of 3-4 people (or men/women) to maximize sharing & prayer.

1. HIGH-LOW-BUFFALO

- a. **High:** Share something that's going well in life
- b. **Low:** Share something in life that's been bumming you out
- c. **Buffalo:** Share something random, funny, or interesting that's going on your life

2. FAITH FOCUS

What are you reading or focusing on in your personal devotions (Bible, prayer, study/journaling...)?

Share one highlight with the group – an insight, encouragement, challenge or application.

3. P.R.A.Y. - BE BOLD IN SERVICE. Pick up a copy of MAY's Prayer Focus brochure at church.

📖 **Read [Philippians 2:1-18](#).** Share this month's scripture (again) as a group & use it as a guide for prayer.

🙏 **Pray** – Take 10min to P.R.A.Y. together. Leader – time & transition to each component.

-- Pause (be still & listen. 2min)

-- Rejoice & Reflect (praise & thanks. 2min.),

-- Ask (invite & request 4min.)

-- Yes (surrender & trust. 2min)

Message Discussion (45min)

*Reconnect as a large group.

1. MESSAGE FEEDBACK

- a. 📖 **Read [Mark 14:32-42](#). What do you observe and learn from this story...?**
 - i. About Jesus?
 - ii. About His Disciples?
 - iii. About our flesh, the World & the Enemy?
- b. **What did you learn from Sunday's Message? What encouraged you or challenged you?**

2. WATCH!

"Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak."

- a. Why does Jesus tell His disciples (AND US) to WATCH?
- b. What should we be watching for?

3. HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT!

- a. 📖 **Read [Matthew 24:1-13](#).**
- b. If we are going to be living in a time like the one described in these verses what is the most important thing to remember and why?

- c. In this Scripture, Jesus is teaching us TO PREPARE for adversity BEFORE we face adversity. Why is this important?
- d. There are different kinds and levels of persecution facing Christians around the world... but how would you describe the kinds and levels of persecution faced by Christians in Canada?
- e. Have you ever felt ignored, ostracized, harassed, or even hated because you are a Disciple of Jesus? Briefly share an example with the group.
- f. What are some ways we can help one another prepare for the adversity described in Matthew 24?

4. & PRAY!

*“Keep watch **and pray**, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak.”*

- a. What role does *Prayer* play in preparing for adversity?
- b. How can we engage and increase our practice of *Prayer*, personally and corporately?
- c. Which *Prayer Insight* from Sunday’s message has been most helpful to you, and why?
 - Pray for **HELP** in your time of need. 📖 Read [Psalm 86:1-2](#)
 - Pray that you don’t **FALL** into temptation. 📖 Read [Matthew 6:13](#)
 - Pray for **BOLDNESS**. 📖 Read [Ephesians 6:18-19](#)
 - Pray against satanic **STRONGHOLDS**. 📖 Read [2 Corinthians 10:3-5](#)
 - Pray for your **ENEMIES**. 📖 Read [Luke 6:27-28](#)

Prayer (15min)

*Break into groups of 3-4 people (or men/women) to maximize sharing & prayer.

- 📖 Read John 16:33 – *“I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world!”* - Jesus
- In response to our discussion, how can we Pray for you and one another?

Key Events

Prayer Summit

Join us for *Worship, Prayer & Communion* at our final *Summit* of the spring/summer season. 6pm-7pm. Auditorium. Our next *Prayer Summit* will be on September 24.

Empower Retreat

Our next *Empower Retreat* is coming up on **June 2-3** at Main Street Church.

Set Fee Retreat is a pre-requisite for *Empower*.

Visit www.mainstreetchurch.ca/empower-retreat for more info and registration.