

STANDING FOR TRUTH

fall 2019

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LESSON FOUR

VERSE FOR THE JOURNEY

- ❑ **2 Corinthians 6:4-8**...but in everything commending ourselves as servants of God, in much endurance, in afflictions, in hardships, in distresses, in beatings, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in hunger, in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in genuine love, in the **word of truth**, in the power of God; by the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left, by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; *regarded* as deceivers and yet true;
- ❑ Truth: *aletheia*: certain beyond any doubt
- ❑ WHO DO YOU BELIEVE? WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?

LEARNING TO STAND

- Today we will discuss the importance of bringing along others in the faith who will be able to duplicate ministry
- **2 Corinthians 12:14-15a**...this third time I am ready to come to you, and I will not be a burden to you; for I do not seek what is yours, but you; for children are not responsible to save up for parents, but parents for children. I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls.
- **Hebrews 5:12-14** ...by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

GAINING SKILL

- Practice: *hexis*: established habit; gain skill by use
- What was special about Timothy?

1. Paul had discipled him

1 Timothy 1:2 To Timothy, *my* true child in *the* faith: Grace, mercy *and* peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Timothy was apparently a good troubleshooter

1 Timothy 1:3-4 As I urged you upon my departure for Macedonia, remain on at Ephesus so that you may instruct certain men not to teach strange doctrines, nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to mere speculation rather than *furthering* the administration of God which is by faith.

THE SERVANT HEART

3. Timothy was a faithful servant

1 Timothy 4:6 In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, *constantly* nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following.

Servant: *diakonos*: deacon

4. Timothy was a team player

Romans 16:21 Timothy my fellow worker greets you, and *so do* Lucius and Jason and Sosipater, my kinsmen.

Fellow worker: *sunergos*: someone who works alongside as part of a team

☐ Timothy didn't try to run the show; he worked with God

KINDRED SPIRIT

□ **Philippians 2:19-22** But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, so that I also may be encouraged when I learn of your condition. For I have no one *else* of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare. For they all seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus. But you know of his proven worth, that he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child *serving* his father.

□ **Kindred spirit:** *isopsuchos*: like-minded

□ **Philippians 1:28-29** For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

AGAINST THE ENEMY

□ **Matthew 4:3-11**... "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'" ...devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written, 'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU'; and 'ON *their* HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'" Jesus said to him, "On the other hand, it is written, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'" ... The devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me."

THROW OUT THE DEVIL

- **Matthew 4:10-11** Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'" Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and *began* to minister to Him.
- Go: *hupago*: go away; get out of here
- Lust of the flesh, boastful pride of life; lust of the eyes
- **1 John 2:15-17** Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

SATAN'S NOT VERY ORIGINAL

- The same problem John wrote about, is the same as the temptation of Jesus, the same temptation of Eve
- **Genesis 3:6** When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make *one* wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.
- **Ephesians 6:17** And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
- Sword: *machaira*: a short sword for up-close battle
- Word: *rhema*: an oral saying or discourse
- The Word of God is food to nourish, light to guide, and a weapon to defend

DON'T FORGET TO PRAY

- **Ephesians 6:18-20** With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, and *pray* on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel...
- **1 Samuel 12:23-24** "Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by ceasing to pray for you; but I will instruct you in the good and right way. Only fear the LORD and serve Him in truth with all your heart;
- **Acts 6:3-4** ...select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

PRAYING FOR OUR DISCIPLES

□ **1 Thessalonians 3:10-13** as we night and day keep praying most earnestly that we may see your face, and may complete what is lacking in your faith? Now may our God and Father Himself and Jesus our Lord direct our way to you; and may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also *do* for you; so that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

□ Complete: *katartizo*: perfect; adjust; equip

□ Abound: *perisseuo*: overflow; be abundant

□ Holiness: *hagiosune*: the quality of sacredness

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

- **Mark 4:3-9** "Listen *to this!* Behold, the sower went out to sow; as he was sowing, some *seed* fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate it up. Other *seed* fell on the rocky *ground* where it did not have much soil; and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of soil. And after the sun had risen, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away. Other *seed* fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked it, and it yielded no crop. Other *seeds* fell into the good soil, and as they grew up and increased, they yielded a crop and produced thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold. And He was saying, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."
- Don't be discouraged in making disciples