Philippians 4:1-8

## "Stand Firm!"

Nov. 24, 2019

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!<sup>2</sup> I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. <sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. <sup>9</sup> Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me-put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:1-8

If you do not **STAND FIRM** in your faith, you will not stand at all. Isaiah 7:9

To **STAND FIRM** in the faith we are encouraged to pursue unity with one another, engage joyfully, and pray consistently.

#### 1. Be United.

I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to **be of the same mind** in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Philippians 4:2,3

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you **stand firm in the one Spirit**, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. Philippians 1:27 • Unity of the heart and the hands often begins in the mind.

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbour. Ephesians 4:22-25

## 2. Be Joyful.

*Rejoice* in the Lord always. I will say it again: *Rejoice!* Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Philippians 4:4,5

I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! John 15:11

"Joy is the <u>settled assurance</u> that God is in control of all the details of my life, the <u>quiet confidence</u> that ultimately everything is going to be alright, and the <u>determined choice to praise God</u> in every situation." -Rick Warren

#### 3. Be in Prayer.

Do not be anxious about anything, **but in every situation, by prayer** and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6,7

- Prayer is a discipline that needs to be practiced.
- Prayer produces peace.
- Peace guards our hearts and our minds.

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