

Standing Strong in Christ

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.” - Ephesians 6:10,13

Our Five-Year Vision: *Outreach, Inreach, Upreach!*

Our Previous Themes: *Revival, Rejoicing and Reaching Out
Faithful Christ Followers, Prayerful Courageous Faith*

Our Theme for 2021: *Standing Strong in Christ —
Firmly Rooted in the Storms of Life*

Our Focus for 2021:

- Our theme will be to persevere and even thrive amidst doubts and trials in life.
- We will be reminded to Stand Strong against the enemy of our faith.
- We will study the books of Ephesians and Esther.

Sermon Series this Year

January	— Believe It! Dealing With Doubt	Matthew 11
Feb. - April	— Claim It! What We Have in Christ	Ephesians 1-3
Easter	— My Father, My Son	John 2 & 12
May	— Stop It! Don't Live the World's Way	Ephesians 4
June	— Enjoy It! God's Gifts at Home	Ephesians 5,6
Summer	— Wear It! The Armour of God	Ephesians 6
Sept. - Oct.	— Face It! Esther - “Only God!”	Esther
November	— Lose It! Living Without Guilt	Romans 8
December	— Give It! Christmas Gifts	Matthew 2:1-12

The Battle

1. We're in a spiritual battle between two “kingdoms.”

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” - Ephesians 6:12

2. This battle has been raging since the creation and there is no “neutral” territory.

“Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’” - Genesis 3:1

“He who is not with me is against me...” - Luke 11:23

3. This battle involves every believer.

“Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight...” - 1 Timothy 1:18

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.” - 2 Timothy 4:7

4. The battle is of utmost importance.

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.” - Ephesians 6:10

5. The only hope we have is in the Lord Himself. It is His strength, His power and His armor.

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.” - Ephesians 6:10,11

6. You are only effective when you wear all of the armour.

“Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.” - Ephesians 6:11

7. You win in this battle when you stand your ground.

“Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.” - Ephesians 6:13

The Battleground

It is your mind (or your “heart”).

“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴ The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” - 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.” - Romans 12:2

Standing Strong in Christ

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.” - Ephesians 6:10,13

Our Five-Year Vision: *Outreach, Inreach, Upreach!*

Our Previous Themes: *Revival, Rejoicing and Reaching Out
Faithful Christ Followers, Prayerful Courageous Faith*

Our Theme for 2021: *Standing Strong in Christ —
Firmly Rooted in the Storms of Life*

Our Focus for 2021:

- Our theme will be to persevere and even thrive amidst _____ and trials in life.
- We will be reminded to Stand Strong against the _____ of our faith.
- We will study the books of Ephesians and Esther.

Sermon Series this Year

January	— Believe It! Dealing With Doubt	Matthew 11
Feb. - April	— Claim It! What We Have in Christ	Ephesians 1-3
Easter	— My Father, My Son	John 2 & 12
May	— Stop It! Don't Live the World's Way	Ephesians 4
June	— Enjoy It! God's Gifts at Home	Ephesians 5,6
Summer	— Wear It! The Armour of God	Ephesians 6
Sept. - Oct.	— Face It! Esther - “Only God!”	Esther
November	— Lose It! Living Without Guilt	Romans 8
December	— Give It! Christmas Gifts	Matthew 2:1-12

The Battle

1. We're in a spiritual battle between two “_____.”
“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” - Ephesians 6:12

2. This battle has been raging since the _____ and there is no “neutral” territory.

“Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’” - Genesis 3:1

“He who is not with me is against me...” - Luke 11:23

3. This battle involves _____ believer.

“Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight...” - 1 Timothy 1:18

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.” - 2 Timothy 4:7

4. The battle is of utmost _____.

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.” - Ephesians 6:10

5. The only _____ we have is in the Lord Himself. It is His strength, His power and His armor.

“Finally, **be strong in the Lord** and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.” - Ephesians 6:10,11

6. You are only effective when you wear _____ of the armour.

“Put on the **full armor of God**, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.” - Ephesians 6:11

7. You win in this battle when you _____ your ground.

“Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to **stand your ground**, and after you have done everything, **to stand**.” - Ephesians 6:13

The Battleground

It is your _____ (or your “heart”).

“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴ The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” - 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind**. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.” - Romans 12:2