

Jude

How Do We Fight For Our Faith?

The who and why behind the letter:

Matthew 13:53-55, Mark 3:21-35, 6:1-6, John 7:2-10, Acts 1:14

The **HALF-BROTHER** of **JESUS** had something to tell us even more urgent than **SALVATION**.

His hope was to bring **MERCY**, **PEACE** and **LOVE**.

Two problems that created this urgency:

Problem 1: Some people saw their freedom **IN CHRIST** as a freedom **TO SIN**.

Problem 2: Not **DEFENDING** the faith brought **DIVISION**.

How do we fight for *The Faith*?

Philippians 2:1-14, 2 Timothy 2:22-26, Romans 12:9-21

- ✓ Get rid of **DIVISION**.

- ✓ Grow in our **FAITH**.

- ✓ Pray in the **POWER** of the **HOLY SPIRIT**.

- ✓ Walk in **GOD'S LOVE**.

- ✓ Await **MERCY**.

- ✓ Give **MERCY**.

Christians have to focus on the **RESCUING**, and let God focus on the **REVENGING**.

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How Do We Fight For Our Faith?

The who and why behind the letter:

Matthew 13:53-55, Mark 3:21-35, 6:1-6, John 7:2-10, Acts 1:14

The _____ of _____ had something to tell us
even more urgent than _____.

His hope was to bring _____, _____ and _____.

Two problems that created this urgency:

Problem 1: Some people saw their freedom _____
as a freedom _____.

Problem 2: Not _____ the faith brought _____.

How do we fight for *The Faith*?

Philippians 2:1-14, 2 Timothy 2:22-26, Romans 12:9-21

- ✓ Get rid of _____.
- ✓ Grow in our _____.
- ✓ Pray in the _____ of the _____.
- ✓ Walk in _____.
- ✓ Await _____.
- ✓ Give _____.

Christians have to focus on the _____, and let God focus on the _____.

Life Group Study Questions

For the week of October 3, 2021

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Of all our senses, smell seems to be the one that is best at bringing back memories. Our sense of smell can instantaneously trigger memories of events, places or people from our past. Can you think of one or two smells that trigger good memories from your childhood?

2. Which one of the six ways Chris mentioned for how to fight for the faith do you think is most important for you to remember?

Which is most challenging for you to put into action?

3. We heard this weekend about Jude's desire for Christians to experience mercy, grace and love. Take a minute to write a definition for each of those terms in your own words.

Which of them is hardest for you to experience in your life? Which is the one you most need to see in abundance in your life?

- **Quick Review:** Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. The focus of the sermon this weekend was the importance of how we go about reaching out in a winsome way to help rescue people. In John 1:17, we see Jesus described as having a combination of both grace and truth, which influenced all of His interactions with people. How do you see both of these being lived out in Jesus' interaction with the woman caught in adultery in John 8:1-11?

John 8:1-11 New International Version (NIV)

¹ but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ² At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. ³ The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group ⁴ and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" ⁶ They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷ When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸ Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰ Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" ¹¹ "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

What would your experience be if you were interacting with someone who focused almost solely on grace? How about someone who focused almost solely on truth?

Why do you think it's so hard to consistently balance grace and truth in our interactions with others?

Is there someone you know who has a good balance of both grace and truth? What is it like for you to be around them?

2. A big part of how we fight for the faith involves how we talk to people. Our words can have great impact on others both positively and negatively. What can you learn about effective communication from the Proverbs below?

Proverbs 10:19 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁹ Sin is not ended by multiplying words, but the prudent hold their tongues.

Proverbs 12:18 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁸ The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Proverbs 15:1 New International Version (NIV)

A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Proverbs 15:23 New International Version (NIV)

²³ A person finds joy in giving an apt reply— and how good is a timely word!

Proverbs 18:2 New International Version (NIV)

² Fools find no pleasure in understanding but delight in airing their own opinions.

Proverbs 18:13 New International Version (NIV)

¹³ To answer before listening— that is folly and shame.

Can you think of a time when you had good intentions entering a conversation, but your choice of words, tone of voice or lack of listening caused the conversation to derail? If so, in light of the above verses, what could you do differently to accomplish a better outcome?

In what ways might these principles of communication positively affect one of your current relationships with someone who isn't a part of God's family yet?

TAKING IT HOME

Looking back on this week's sermon and study, what's most important for you to remember?

PRAYER REQUESTS

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MEN'S CONFERENCE

Join us Friday, October 22 & Saturday, October 23 for the first ever North Coast Church Men's Conference held at the Vista Campus! Come enjoy teaching led by pastors Chris Brown and Mark Clark! Register at northcoastchurch.com/2021-mens-conference/.



WOMEN'S GATHERING – North Coast Leadership Conference

Join us Monday, October 18, 6-9pm at the Vista Campus and be equipped to lead no matter what role you serve in — as a student, single woman, wife, mom or in the marketplace. Visit northcoastchurch.com/womens-gathering-event/