

Stand Firm: 1 of 7
“With Truth”
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
March 3, 2019

Big Idea: Because our battle is spiritual, we must fight with spiritual weapons to stand firm with God’s armor.

Jesus said, “The **thief’s purpose** is to steal and kill and destroy. **My purpose** is to give them a rich and satisfying life.” **John 10:10 (NLT2)**

Size Up Our Enemy: Adversary, Slanderer, Tempter, Accuser, Liar, Defeated

His Tactics:

Fear: impending doom, violent dreams, unresolved anger...

Doubt: Does God really say...? Really care about you? Really forgive?

Compromise: to make us ineffective, insecure, and unproductive

“God stripped the spiritual rulers and powers of their authority. With the cross, He won the victory and showed the world that they were powerless.”

Colossians 2:15 (NCV)

“You, dear children, are from God and have **overcome** them, because the one who is in you is **greater** than the one who is in the world.” **1 John 4:4 (NIV)**

“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 (NIV) Remember Verse

“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. 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 6:12-13 (NIV)**

“**Stand** your ground, putting on the belt of **truth** and the body armor of God’s **righteousness**. For shoes, put on the **peace** that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of **faith** to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on **salvation** as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the **word of God**. **Pray** in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.”

Ephesians 6:14-18 (NLT2)

Notes: _____

The Enemy Causes Three Destructive Philosophies:

➤ I Will Not Be Restricted By Any _____

“In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.” **Judges 21:25 (NLT2)**

➤ I Will Not Be Answerable _____

“They **traded** the truth about God for a lie. So they **worshiped** and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen.” **Romans 1:25 (NLT2)**

➤ I Will Not Be Responsible For My _____

“Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have **closed their minds** and **hardened their hearts** against Him. They have **no sense of shame**. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity.” **Ephesians 4:18-19 (NLT2)**

To Stand Firm:

1. I Will Commit Myself To _____ The Truth

“**Stand** your ground, putting on the belt of **truth**...” **Ephesians 6:14 (NLT2)**

“For the time will come when men will not put up with **sound doctrine**. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears **want to hear**. **They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.**” **2 Timothy 4:3-4 (NIV)**

2. I Will Commit Myself To _____ The Truth

“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” **John 14:6 (NIV)**

3. I Will Commit Myself To _____ The Truth

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.” **2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT2)**

“Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the **truth** that comes from Him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit **renew** your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.” **Ephesians 4:21-24 (NLT2)**

➤ Am I seeking truth in my life? Where do I need to obey truth in my life?

To stand firm, I will commit myself to seeking the truth by:

[] Regularly reading the Word of God [www.youversion.com]

[] Regularly attending church

[] Regularly attending a small group

[] Accepting Jesus as my Lord and Savior

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.]

Big Idea: Because our battle is spiritual, we must fight with spiritual weapons to stand firm with God’s armor.

Icebreaker: Where do you see the devil’s schemes played out in the world today?

Read John 10:10

What is the devil’s purpose?

What is Jesus’ purpose?

Size Up Our Enemy: Adversary, Slanderer, Tempter, Accuser, Liar, Defeated

His Tactics:

Fear: impending doom, violent dreams, unresolved anger...

Doubt: Does God really say...? Really care about you? Really forgive?

Compromise: to make us ineffective, insecure, and unproductive

Read Isaiah 41:10

What is your greatest fear?

What is God’s promise?

Read 1 John 4:4

What is the promise here?

Read Colossians 2:15

What did Jesus do for us?

Read Ephesians 6:10-18

Whose strength must we fight in? [10] Why?

What makes up the Armor of God?

What pieces of armor do you need the most in your life?

In what way does the armor allow us to stand against the enemy?

The Enemy Causes Three Destructive Philosophies:

➤ **I Will Not Be Restricted By Any Authority**

Read Judges 21:25

How does having no authority lead to rebelling against God?

➤ **I Will Not Be Answerable To God**

Read Romans 1:25

What kinds of things do people devote their lives to today?

In what ways does our culture trade God's truth for a lie?

➤ **I Will Not Be Responsible For My Choices**

Read Ephesians 4:18-19

Where have you hardened your heart in the past?

How did God get your attention?

To Stand Firm:

1. I Will Commit Myself To Seeking The Truth.

Read Ephesians 6:14

How can the belt of truth keep you from stumbling?

Read 2 Timothy 4:3-4

What is the danger when we don't know sound doctrine?

What are some things that you would like to know more about God?

2. I Will Commit Myself To Believing The Truth.

Read John 14:6

Why is this claim of Jesus so bold?

3. I Will Commit Myself To Living The Truth.

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17

What is the purpose of scripture?

How has scripture changed your course in life?

Where are you resisting God's Word?

Read Ephesians 4:21-24

What truth have you learned from Jesus?

What does it mean to "throw off" your old nature?

What does it mean to "put on" your new nature?

Close in Prayer:
