

“A Time To Stand”

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

¹⁴ Stand therefore, having gird your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness.

¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the

preparation of the gospel of peace;

¹⁶ above all, taking the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all fiery darts of the wicked one.

¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all saints—

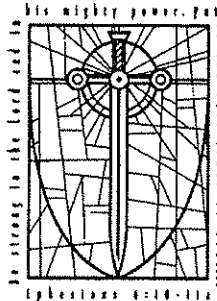
¹⁹ and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,

²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Ephesians 6:10-20 NKJV

The following is a brief passage from our textbook for our next Berean class, Ephesians by Francis Foulkes. Textbooks will be available soon (\$15). A sign up sheet is in the foyer. Our first session will meet October 24 from 2:30—4:30 p.m.

“Therefore, Paul says, as you realize the grim power and resources of your spiritual foes, *take the whole armor of God*. Only at great peril can it be neglected. Three times he repeats now the word that has been used in verse 11, when he says that the great objective of the Christian warrior is to be able to *stand*. In fact the first use of the word in this verse is in the compound verb *withstand* (*antistēnai*, the simple verb is *stēnai*, ‘stand’) implying a stand against great opposition (cf. Jas 4:7 and I Pet. 5:9, where the same word is applied to the same spiritual conflict). *The evil day*, to which particular reference is made, indicates a time when the conflict will be most severe, due both to persecution from without and trial from within the Christian fellowship. The apocalyptic passages of the Gospels (e.g. Mark 13:4-23) and Paul in



his letters (e.g. 2 Thess. 2:3) alike refer to the quickening of the conflict, the increase in intensity of the warfare, in a great crescendo, before the ‘day of the Lord’ comes (cf. I John 2:18-19). For this in particular, as for every lesser ‘evil day’, the

Christian must be prepared. There are many things to be done in the Christian’s life, many opportunities of service, but Paul could see the possibility of a person doing great things, even the works of an apostle, and yet being a castaway in the end (I Cor. 9:24-27). So he stresses here with all the emphasis he can, that *having done all*, having accomplished great things (as the verb implies), they must be sure to *stand* (*stēnai*).

*Looking forward to studying together
that we might be prepared, and
“having done all, to stand.”*

Pastor Mason



Fall Fun Nite

Sunday, October 31

The annual Fall Fun Nite will be held on Sunday, October 31, beginning with a fellowship meal at 5:30 p.m. Please bring a generous dish to pass. Table service will be provided. Following the meal there will be activities for all ages, including games and, weather permitting, a bonfire and hayride. Sunday School teachers will be organizing games for their classes. And, pumpkins will be available soon for the "Pumpkin Painting Contest" so be thinking about your creation based on a biblical character or story, prizes will be awarded.

All are welcome—invite a friend or neighbor to share in the fun!

A sign-up sheet will soon be available in the foyer. Please indicate the number of adults and children high school age and younger that are coming.

Candy for Goodie Bags—Each child attending Fall Fun Nite who is high school age or younger receives a bag of "goodies." Please help fill bags by bringing in candy. A box for the candy will be located in the foyer. Deadline is Wednesday, October 27.

Ladies' Fall Retreat

Ladies, it's not too late to sign up for the Women's Fellowship Retreat on Friday & Saturday, October 8 & 9. Deadline for reservations is Sunday, October 3. Cost is \$40. Please make checks payable to "Women's Fellowship" and give to Mary Deer. A sign-up sheet is available in the foyer.

Up Coming Events . . .

- Oct. 8 & 9**... Ladies' Fall Retreat
- Oct. 31** Fall Fun Night
- Nov. 6** Men's Breakfast & Fall Clean-Up Day
- Dec. 6** Ladies' Christmas Brunch

Operation Christmas Child



God is using natural disasters to open the doors for Christian workers. Through the devastation of earthquakes, volcanoes, hurricanes, etc. millions of people worldwide have lost everything from family members to homes, jobs and food. These people are looking for hope. Samaritan's Purse runs to the aid of the hurting every time disaster strikes. Besides providing shelter, fresh water, food and medical supplies they bring hope through the gospel. Operation Christmas Child is one way to bring not only joy to hurting children, but also hope. In the midst of their despair they learn that they have a heavenly father who is reaching out to them.

Last year our church donated 143 shoeboxes—this blessing touched the lives of countless children and their families. We'll never know the spiritual impact of our gifts until we reach heaven. But rest assured Jesus knows!

Please prayerfully consider your part in this worthy cause.

Shoeboxes are due by November 14. If you have any questions or need help call Kathi Dunham 585-593-2230.

Gal. 6:9 *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

Kick-Off is Sunday, October 3!

A Fall Day has been scheduled for Saturday, November 6, a.m. to 6 p.m. On the general



Clean-up has been scheduled, November 6, from 9:00 approx. 3:00 agenda is a sprucing up

of the interior and exterior of the church. Men, women and young people are encouraged to come and have a good time fellowshiping together as we work to beautify God's house. Lunch will be provided.

Remember: Many hands make light work!

Attention Men: The Men's Fellowship will meet for breakfast prior to the work day. No need to sign up—just come at 7:30 a.m. for a hearty breakfast prepared by Chef Kornhaus.