

**“Stand Firm” (Ephesians 6:10-20)**

**Our Bold, Daring, Audacious Dream and Prayer:** *By 2028 Cold Springs Church will raise up 10,000 local, national and international leaders who live and lead out of the overflow of a Jesus-trusting life resulting in restored and strengthened families.*  
(Check out our Vision Wall in the lobby)!

**SERMON NOTES**

“Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.” (1 Peter 5:8–11, ESV)

- We are spiritual people living in a spiritual world.
  - Everything Is Spiritual
  
- **So How Do We Live?**
  - When I teach coaching, my mantra is you need to have the right mindset and the right skillset to be a great coach.
  - To live well in this world, the same is true - you must have the mindset of Jesus Christ.
  - Skillset of spiritual battle.
  
- Live This Way
- **Stand Firm**
  - We Stand Firm to Withstand Spiritual Battles
  - Live Leaning Forward
  - You Have To Resist
- **The Battle You’ll Face**
  - Direct Attack
  - Collateral Damage
  - Friendly Fire
  
- **Be Strong In Jesus**
  - On your own, you’re going to lose
  - No human is stronger or greater than any spiritual power
  - In Christ, You Can’t Lose

- This is where you START. Being strong in Jesus makes it possible to Stand Firm.
  - The Armor of God Paul identifies is about being Strong In Jesus.
    - Three Things
      - **Be Immersed In Scripture**
        - The Armor is all about being in the Bible
        - Belt of truth
        - Breastplate of righteousness
        - Shoes of the Gospel of peace
        - Shield of Faith
        - Helmet of Salvation
        - Sword of the Spirit - the word of God
          - If you don't spend time in the Bible, you are living spiritually naked and spiritually unprotected.
      - **Be Devoted To Prayer**
        - Pray
        - Pray With
        - Pray For
        - Receive Prayer
      - **Be Uncompromisingly Connected To Community**
        - Don't Battle Alone
        - The romantic Western figure is the lone wolf worker of justice
        - No one fights alone, no one survives alone, no one thrives alone
- Live This Way
  - **Be Strong In Jesus**
  - **Stand Strong**

## STUDY GUIDE

**ICE BREAKER** : Share a moment from this past week during the electrical power outages that surprised, inspired or caused you to be grateful.

**PRAYER**: Our desire is that you give 10% of your time to God in prayer. Take time to pray together in your group.

## **THIS WEEK: “Stand Firm” (Ephesians 6:10-20)**

1. Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, what particularly caught your attention, encouraged, challenged or confused you?
2. How do we go about having “the same mindset as Christ Jesus?” (Phil. 2:5, 1 Cor. 2:12-16).
3. After hearing this weekend’s message, how would you explain the concept of “spiritual battle?”
4. When have you encountered this kind of battle in your life? Perhaps in looking back, what challenge does it now seem clear was a spiritual matter?

## **TAKING IT HOME**

This weekend Pastor David talked about living a life “leaning forward” in resistance to the world pushing on you. He mentioned the aspects of the battle we face as: *Direct attack* (1 Pet. 5:8, Lk. 22:31-32). *Collateral damage* (Rom. 12:2, Jam. 1:27, Gal. 6:1). *Friendly fire* (Mt. 18:15, Prv. 27:6).

5. Of the three kinds of battle, which is most relevant to you in this season? How so?
6. Where do you see Jesus’ presence in the midst of your battle? What is he calling you to do that you can only do through his power?

We are called to stand firm by being strong in Jesus (Eph. 6:10, 13). On our own we will lose. In Christ, we can’t lose (Col. 2:13-15). The following are the critical three ways to be strong in Jesus:

*Be Immersed in Scripture*

*Be Devoted to Prayer*

*Be Uncompromisingly Connected to Community*

7. Of the above three areas, which is strongest in your life? What makes it so?
8. Which is your growth edge? How will you strengthen this aspect of your life?