

Courage to Stand

Pastor Kirk Graham

Key Points:

- In a spiritual battle, the enemy wants you to feel like you are outnumbered, overwhelmed, and isolated.
- In reality, Jesus stands with you, so you have the same spiritual authority and power that conquered even death itself on your side!
- We can find courage to stand by remembering our identity in Christ and heritage in the family of God.
- We can find courage by remembering that the ground we stand on is God's territory. It already belongs to God; we just need to defend it!
- We can find courage by remembering that our loyalty lies with the Almighty God.

Main Scripture Reference(s):

- 2 Samuel 23:11-12, John 10:10, 1 Peter 5:8-10, Matthew 26:47, Psalm 64:1-2, Judges 15:14-16, Daniel 3:16-18, Galatians 1:15-17, 2 Chronicles 20:15-17

Discussion Questions:

1. In John 10:10, Jesus says that there is a real spiritual enemy intending to steal, kill, destroy, and take ground in our lives that belongs to God. How do you respond in moments of decision when you need to stand your ground in a spiritual battle? In what areas are you asking for courage and help from God to do so?
2. The enemy will attack not just at your weak points, but at strong points where you have struggled and gained victory in the past. In what areas of your life has God won victory and restored you into freedom? How can you be watchful over these areas, so that you are prepared to defend and hold this ground that has already been won?
3. The enemy will also attack where you are fruitful and gifted by trying to draw you into pride. What abilities and skills has God given you to be developed and applied for His good purposes? In what ways--past and present--have you subtly slipped into an attitude of self-centeredness or egotism?

Intentionally return to a posture of humility by acknowledging that He has given you this ability to be fruitful, thanking Him for the part you have been entrusted to play in His mission, and both inwardly and outwardly giving Him all the glory and credit!

4. What name, anointing, and calling has God given you? In your small group, share your spiritual "names" with one another. Encourage one another by echoing or adding to the list of strong, godly identity traits that you see in each other.