

Jude - Week Three

How to Contend for the Faith Together

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This week we are talking about the 4 ways we contend for the faith together

Jude 1:20-23

²⁰ But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.

²² Be merciful to those who doubt; ²³ save others by snatching them from the fire; to others show mercy, mixed with fear—hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.

Jude gave us 4 warnings about false teachers and false doctrines. Jude also gives us 4 ways that we can contend for the faith that was handed down to us...

- 1) Build yourselves up in the faith
- 2) Pray in the Spirit
- 3) Keep yourselves in God's love
- 4) Be merciful to those who doubt

Build yourselves up in your faith

Jude 1:20a

²⁰ But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith

The Greek word for building means “to build above a foundation”
So, this verse implies that our faith is being built upon a foundation that has already been laid...what is that foundation?

Ephesians 2:19-22 (NIV)

What are some ways we build up our faith?

Spiritual disciplines

-Reading God's word

Psalm 119:105 (NIV)

Hebrews 12:4 (NIV)

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)

If we want to build up our faith, then it has to start with having an understanding of God's word as it is in God's word that we know what the faith even is and what it is that God wants for us.

-Hardships

When we go through hardships, it is so vitally important that we have a community of believers around us that are encouraging us, praying for us, and reminding us of who God is and who we are in Him.

This is why we have life groups...

Romans 5:3-5 (NLT)

Pray in the Holy Spirit

Jude 1:20b (NIV)

²⁰and praying in the Holy Spirit,

We have power through the Holy Spirit!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)

Romans 8:26 (NIV)

Keep yourselves in God's love

Jude 1:21 (NIV)

²¹ keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.

This does not mean that you have to somehow do something that will cause God to love you, or continue to love you...God loves you because you are His child!

1 Thessalonians 5:8 (NLT)

Be merciful to those who doubt

Jude 1:22-23 (NIV)

²² Be merciful to those who doubt; ²³ save others by snatching them from the fire; to others show mercy, mixed with fear—hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.

Some people have doubts in their faith...and if we are all being honest there is probably some form of doubt in all of us...some more than others.

- Am I really saved?
- Does God truly love me?
- Is God actually good?
- Is God even real?
- Is the Bible actually true?

We wrestle through our faith and we do it together. We don't want to encourage doubting...but we also understand that it happens and we want to meet people where they are at.

2 Timothy 2:23-26 (NKJV)

Close

1 Peter 4:7-11 (NLT)

⁷ The end of the world is coming soon. Therefore, be earnest and disciplined in your prayers. ⁸ Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Cheerfully share your home with those who need a meal or a place to stay.

¹⁰ God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. ¹¹ Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.