

Stand Together - October 11

Parents: Paul's goals for the early church were to be encouraged, united in love, have the full riches of understanding to know Jesus Christ and to live their lives in Him. We would like the same for our children. Let's stand with Paul on the foundation of God's Word as we share these truths with them.

Read: [Colossians 2:1-9](#) I want you to know how hard I (Paul) am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally. **2** My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, **3** in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. **4** I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments. **5** For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christ is. **6** So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, **7** rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. **8** See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

Discuss: What are some of Paul's goals for the Colossians? *To be encouraged, united, and have understanding of Jesus.* What does it mean to live your life in Jesus? *When we are in Jesus, all of our lives – whether it is our work/school, our home, everything is in Christ Jesus. He is the center of our life and number one in our heart.* What does Paul say the people need to be overflowing with? *Thankfulness.* Do you think this applies to people back then or does it apply to us, too? *Yes, this applies to us as well. God's Word is timeless. When we read it and apply it to our lives we learn and grow in Christ!*

Read: [Matthew 14:22-33](#) Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. **23** After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, **24** and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. **25** Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. **26** When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. **27** But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." **28** "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." **29** "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. **30** But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" **31** Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" **32** And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. **33** Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Discuss: How did the disciples feel when they saw someone walking on the lake toward their boat? *They were terrified!* What did Jesus say? *"Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."* Peter said, "Lord, if it's you, tell me to come to you on the water." What did Jesus say? *"Come."* What did Peter do? *He got out of the boat and started walking on water!* Why did Peter start to sink? *He saw the wind and was afraid.* Peter cried out, "Lord, save me!", which is the first thing we need to do when we are afraid. What was the Lord's reaction? *Immediately, Jesus reached out his hand and caught Peter.* Who can do all things and is the Son of God? *Jesus.*



Key Point: I Live my Life in Jesus

I Live my Life (Take both pointer or first fingers and point to yourself)
In Jesus (Place pointer finger into opposite palm)

Family Activity: Let's try floating a paperclip on water. We learn real quick that it doesn't work because paper clips sink. Bend one paper clip to make a holder for a second paper clip to rest on. Place the second paper clip flat on the paper clip holder, and gently lay the paper clip on the water. Can you believe the unbent paper clip can actually float on the surface of the water? Amazing! As we perform the activity with our children, point out that when we *live in Jesus* (like the paper clip rests on the holder), He will enable us to do things we never thought we could. To take it one step further, add dish soap to the water. The paper clips sink just like Peter did when he walked on water. We don't want to take our eyes off of Jesus and let fear, doubt, or false teachings from the world into our hearts and minds.

Prayer: Dear God, I praise You for Your ability to make the impossible possible. I confess fear crosses my mind sometimes. Forgive me. Thank You for sending Jesus to die for me and my sins so I can be truly forgiven. By the power of the Holy Spirit fill me with faith and strengthen it every day. Amen.

Next Steps: Memorize Colossians 2:6 - "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him."



“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him.” Colossians 2:6