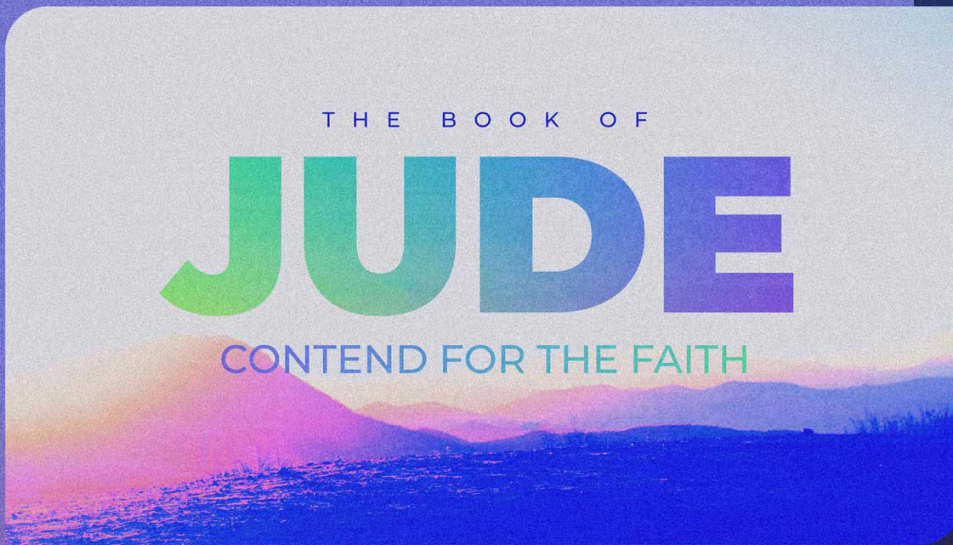


LIFE APP



**Know
what you
believe
and stand
strong.**

CURRENT THEME:

Contend for our faith and for truth.

MEMORY VERSE

"Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called..." **1 Timothy 6:12 (ESV)**

AUGUST 10 - LIFE APPLICATION

Know what you believe and stand strong.

Today's Scripture: **Jude 1:3-4** (ESV)

Note to Parents: During the month of August, we will be studying the **Book of Jude**. Last week, we learned about who Jude was and why the **Book of Jude** is so important to those who follow Jesus. This week, we are encouraged to **know we are loved, know what we believe, watch for false teaching, and stand for the truth.**

Review:

- **Who was Jude?** (A servant of Jesus Christ and the brother of James who was the head of the Jerusalem Church in **Acts 15**.)
- **In verse 1, to whom is Jude writing?** Describe. (Those who are called by God, loved by God, and kept for Jesus Christ. We are His forever!)
- **What did Jude pronounce as a blessing over the followers of Jesus in verse 2?** (God's mercy, God's peace, and God's love. And that all of this would be multiplied in them!)

Discussion

Read **verse 3** together:

"Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints."

1. **What did Jude call the people he was writing to?** (Beloved, saints.) **Why would Jude call them beloved?** (He knew them and loved them. He knew they were loved by God, and that they understood God's love and grace for them.) Also, we are to not only know we are loved by God, but love each other! Name **three ways** we can show love to other believers.
2. Jude had been very eager to write to these followers of Jesus about their faith, but instead he felt it was necessary to write to them about something else. **What was it?** (To contend for the faith that had been entrusted to all of God's people.) **Do you remember what "contend for the faith" means?** (To fight for their faith and for truth.)

Now look at **verse 3** together:

"For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ."

3. **What kind of people was Jude concerned about?** *(People who “crept into the church unnoticed,” those who do not love the Lord, sinners, false teachers who do not teach God’s truth - those who lead people astray and lead them to do wrong things.)*
4. David Chadwick says there are two ways Satan tries to destroy the church:
- **From the outside with persecution** - there are many countries where people are persecuted for believing in Jesus - shunned, or even killed. In our country, people can feel persecuted by being misunderstood, made fun of, and belittled for their faith. And sometimes, violence can happen to the church or to Christians. For example, 20 Christians were just killed in Mozambique by radical Muslims simply because they believe in Jesus. Let’s make sure we pray for persecuted Christians regularly around the world.
 - **From the inside with false teaching.** What are false teachers? *(Those who make their way into church as pastors or teachers who teach falsehoods, those who have ungodly character, who keep sinning even when they know what they are doing is wrong, and using God’s grace as an excuse for them to sin. And, those who deny Jesus for who He is - the Son of God, our Savior, the only way to God. See [John 14:6](#) and [Acts 4:12](#). Most importantly they did not acknowledge Jesus as Lord of their lives and serve Him wholeheartedly.)*
5. It’s important to know what we believe so we can stand up for the truth when lies are being told to us. **How can we strengthen our faith and know the truth so that we can “contend for the faith?”** *(By knowing God’s word, which is the truth.)*

A word from our pastor, David Chadwick:

If you call yourself a follower of Jesus, here’s what you say when you hear and understand the truth: “So be it!”

It’s proof that your beliefs are not false, and you will never become a false teacher or fall prey to their wrong teaching.

It starts with you, parents. Teach your children well about Jesus!

- Jesus is Master over our lives. Jesus is Lord over all the universe.
- Jesus created all. He rules over all.
- Jesus alone is worthy of all our worship and obedience.

Family challenge:

Together, come up with a plan for your family. Every family is different, and there are activities, school, and other things that take up our time. Find times during the week that you can gather together to read God's Word, talk about it, pray, and worship.

Give each person in your home a journal and have a "journal time" at least once a week where everyone (even parents) journals. **Little kids** can draw things they are thankful for, or tell their parents what they would like to say in their journal, and have parents write their words for them to illustrate. **Older kids** can definitely develop a habit of "taking it to the Lord" by journaling.

Encourage everyone to write things they are thankful for, needs or desires they have, confession, and intercessory prayer for those who need it. Also, have a page for answered prayer! So important!

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, thank You for choosing us to be Yours and for loving us. Give us wisdom as we love others and serve in the church. Help us to be able to know truth and reject untruth. Help us to "stand strong" for our faith! In Your Name we pray, Amen.