

Standing Firm: a study of 1 Peter
“3 Attitudes That Lead to Spiritual Maturity”

1 Peter 5:5-14

November 26, 2017 / Pastor Shawn

● **The Attitudes:**

1. Be humble.

⁵ In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because

“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 1 Peter 5:5-6

◆ **Tapeinophrosynē (tā-pā-no-fro-sū’-nā): lowly minded; mindset placing others before yourself**

2. Be dependent.

⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7

◆ **Epiriptō (e-pē-rē’p-tō): cast; throw; unload**

3. Be vigilant.

⁸ Be alert and of sober-mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 1 Peter 5:8-9

◆ **Grēgoreō (grā-go-re’-ō): watch; to give strict attention; keep awake; vigilant &**

Nēphō (nā’-fō): self-control; be calm; under control; over; temperate

PRINCIPLES FOR BATTLING OUR SPIRITUAL ENEMY

A. WE TAKE OUR ENEMY SERIOUSLY

B. WE FIGHT UNDER GOD’S AUTHORITY

C. WE STAND FIRM IN THE FAITH

● **The Result:**

**When we obey God,
We can be confident about the outcome.**

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 5:10-11

Discussion Questions

1. What was your “A-Ha” from Sunday’s message? Why did this speak to you? Please be specific.
2. What do you find yourself doing these days: humbling yourself or feeding your pride? Why is this?
3. Based upon the historical context of 1 Peter, what “anxieties” do you think these people faced? What would replace their fears as they followed verses 6-7?
4. Try to recall times that you have been especially aware that God cares for you. Did you feel more free to “cast” your anxieties on God then or during other times when His love didn’t seem so close? What do you think causes these differences in feeling?
5. What sources of opposition to the Christians has Peter spoken of already (2:12, 13-14, 18; 3:1, 16; 4:3-4)? How do these relate to verse 8 here in chapter 5? What is the Christian’s defense in this battle? What is the Christian’s hope?
6. What areas of your life would you like God to restore and make you strong, firm, and steadfast?
7. In your life, where is the “lion” (v.8): (a) Just looking for you? (b) Nibbling at your heels? (c) Chewing you up? How can your Group help you resist him?
8. What was your biggest “take-away” from the study of 1 Peter? How will you live differently because of this study?