

STAND (11 of 11)

Pastor Bill Bowers | September 2, 2018

Standing Firm

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:8-14 (NLT)

MY PART:

1. **Stay Alert.** (v.8)
2. **Stand Firm.** (v. 9)
3. **Be Strong.** (v. 9)
4. **Remember.** (v. 9)

GOD'S PART:

1. **Restore.** (v. 10)
2. **Support.** (v. 10)
3. **Strengthen.** (v. 10)
4. **Firm Foundation.** (v. 10)

HOMEGROUP & PERSONAL STUDY QUESTIONS

Teaching Text: 1 Peter 5:8-14

1. Our text this week begins with a strong word to, “Stay Alert!” What do you think Peter intends for us to do with this command? What does “alert” mean to you as you go through daily life? Is it a real expectation for anyone to be constantly alert to the wiles of the devil? Share your thoughts.
2. Peter continues his instruction for believers to “stand firm” and “be strong” in the actions and pursuit of our faith. Can you describe how you stand firm and be strong? Please try to provide specific examples, perhaps one crisis situation and one example from “normal” everyday life.
3. In 1 Peter 5:10 we read how God called you to “share in his eternal glory by means of Christ.” Do you think this sharing is or can be a present experience? Share your thoughts.
4. Verse ten continues with Peter’s words, “After you have suffered a little while, he (God) will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation.” Restoration, support, and strength are all desirable things, but how does the “suffering a little while” sit with you? It seems almost as if suffering is a prerequisite for those rewards. How do you feel about this?
5. Peter assures his reader-listeners that the purpose of his letter is encouragement and assurance (1 Peter 5:12). He goes on to say the experience of the Christian journey, its ups and downs, the mountaintop experiences and the valleys, are all part of God’s grace for you. Would you agree with Peter in this assessment? Are you able to see God’s grace equally in times of good and times of difficulty? Share your experiences.
6. This Letter of First Peter has been a very sobering experience for some of us. Have you come away from this eleven-week series with a better understanding of God’s work in the life of the believer? What is your personal takeaway? What is one thing you feel God working in your life through this series? How will you respond?