**How to Stand Firm!**

**Series on I Peter #12**

I Peter 5:5-7

Peter has been talking to pastors and elders about the crucial importance of their role in supporting and guiding the flock especially in difficult times. He now addresses the young men and then all the believers sharing three critical keys to standing firm in the faith and surviving the battle!

1. **You Must be Submissive** (v.5)**:**
2. **Submission =** Coming under the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of another. (Control)

* Counter Cultural
* Counter Intuitive

1. **Rebellion** -
2. **Accountability** -
3. **You are Called to be Humble** (vv. 5-6)**:**
   1. **Humility** -(Micah 6:8) **-**
   2. **Apron -** Clothe (v.5) -
   3. **Grace -** Received/Resisted(Prov.3:34) -
4. **You are Asked to be Trustful** (v.7)**:**
   1. **Casting Care!** (Isa. 41:10)-
   2. **All vs. Some!** (Phil.4:6)-
   3. **Learned Rest!** (Prov. 3:5-6) -

God will **not** waste our pain or the struggles He calls us to go through. He gives to us critical requisites (humble submission and restful trust) to enable us to survive the spiritual battles and trials of this life!

**Going Deeper:**

1. What do you think, is the difference between blind obedience and willing submission? Why do you think our submission is so important to God?
2. Who is one of the humblest people you have ever known? How would you characterize their attitude and actions? How was their humility evidenced?
3. Our response to God’s Word and life’s difficulties can determine our ability to thrive. Can you see how important our responses to both truth and to trials are, to our spiritual welfare?
4. Last week we saw how God has placed individuals (pastors & elders) in our lives to guide and to encourage us. Do you see how crucial brothers and sisters in Christ are for enabling us to stand firm?
5. Do you agree that worry is a subtle form pride? Why do you agree or why do you not agree?
6. **Personal:** Are you a worrier or are you able to let go of concerns and trust God for the outcomes? If you do tend to be anxious, could you form a new habit of prayer (casting care on Christ) and trust (letting the outcome in His hands)?

**Questions for Our Kids:**

1. The Bible says that we are to obey our parents. Why is it so important to always obey Dad and Mom?
2. What do you think the word “trust” means? When you trust someone, what does that look like? How do you show that you trust them?
3. Do you ever get really concerned about something, or maybe even scared? Do you know that when we are really concerned or afraid, God wants us to talk with Him about those things and He will take care of everything for us?