

PROPER 28

YEAR C

Stand firm





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Sunday between November 13 and November 19



Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

- 1. What is a hope you have for the future? What is a fear you have about the future?
- 2. It has been said: "We don't know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future." What does this say to you?
- 3. What promises does Jesus give to us about the future? (Look up Luke 21:19.)



BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week. Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

S	Luke 21:5-19	Suffering for Jesus' sake
M	Luke 21:25-36	Coming of the Son of Man
Т	Exodus 14:10-31	Stand firm
W	2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13	Never tire of doing what is good
T	Isaiah 65: 17-25	I will create new heavens
F	Jude 17-23	A call to persevere
S	Psalm 141	God is my refuge

VERSE OF THE WEEK

stand firm, and you will win life.

LUKE 21:19





CREATIVE RESPONSE

Isaiah 65:17 tells us that God will "create new heavens and a new earth". Verses 24-25 of that chapter describe a new place where "the wolf and the lamb will eat together and the lion will eat straw like the ox".

Share your personal "pictures of heaven" with each other (e.g. "I picture heaven as a place where ..."). As an additional activity, draw or paint these images. Place them up in your home together with the words of Isaiah 65:17a.



ACTION RESPONSE

Encouraging others is important to our daily hIn Luke 21, Jesus warns that some Christians will face persecution because they follow him. This is the case today in various parts of the world. Pray this week for:

- Christians in North Korea. In this country following Jesus is considered an act of treason, and Christians face the real threat of imprisonment and even execution.
- Christians in Sudan, Nigeria, Iraq and in various parts of Indonesia, India and Pakistan. Many Christians in these areas live in fear of being physically attacked by followers of other religions.
- Christians in China. House churches in China face the constant threat of raids from government authorities. Many house church leaders have been arrested and imprisoned in modern China.



MEALTIME PRAYER

Lord, thank you for the food you send. Keep us in faith until the end.

Amen.



PRAYER

Lord God, help us not to become tired of doing good. Lead us to find ways to serve you and others. Amen.



BLESSING

May God make you strong in your faith. May God give you wise words to speak up for him.