Sermon: **Together we stand!** ***8/ 21/ 2022***

 **Exodus 17: 1—13; Luke 10: 1—11**

Divided we fall, and united we stand. This thought came from President Abraham Lincoln when he spoke about the power of being connected with one another. We become more powerful when we are united. While Pharisees were wondering about the power that Jesus Christ had to perform all kinds of miracles? Mark 11: 28, Jesus answered that the father gives it to me because the father and I are one. John 10: 30. Jesus could not do anything without being associated with his father’s power. Together we will make it. Even king Salomon said, “two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. If either of them falls, one can help the other up. Eccl 4: 9-10.

As you read the exodus book, you will see that the Israelites were winning when Moses held up his hands. But, whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. Then Aaron and Hur held Moses' hands up so that they could win the battle. We need everyone’s support and participation in the church activities and business to succeed. Come and associate your experience and talents with others so we can make our church prosperous. Since I have been here, I have appreciated most of the good things I find in both churches; people want to participate in the church’s activities. I encourage you to stand up and hold the hands of one another so we can move forward.

After Nehemiah told them that Jerusalem's wall had consumed, and all people were in desolation. People in town committed to rebuilding the wall so they may not be disgraced. Nehemiah 2: 17-18. Today we have our church activities as Jerusalem’s wall. Let us stand and rebuild it so that we may not be disgraced. If possible, everyone needs to do something in the church as well. Every department needs to increase the quality and quantity of what we do. God is with us to lead and help us through every activity.

Jesus came to proclaim the nearness of the kingdom of God, and Luke 10 authorizes a broader band of disciples to go out and do the same thing. He’s not sending them out as door-to-door salespeople hawking magazine subscriptions or lawncare services. He doesn’t want them to look like moochers to give off even a whiff of being profiteers. He is telling them to go and bring peace, shalom, to all who will receive it. And the rest of their message is pretty straightforward. The kingdom of God is near you. They are proclaiming a whole new way to live, a whole new way to look at life and this world, a whole new way to orient not just this or that sideline feature to one's life; but the entire ball of wax—every jot and title of one’s existence.

We are calling to stand up, go, and proclaim God’s good news to the family members and community around us. What we need to do first is to be covered by the Spirit’s power. Acts 1: 8. We are calling to pray and fast for seven days. From 8/28 to 9/04/ 2022. However, we will keep the discipline and pray three times per day. Before you go to bed, you will pray with your family members. When you wake up in the morning, pray prayer personally. Mark 1: 35; At 10 am, privately pray Matthew 6: 6, and at noon you close the prayer with the Lord’s Prayer. I will deliver streaming live at 6 pm at church; if you want to come, joining me at church will be fine. Every day I will give the daily program to pray; Otherwise, participate on Facebook and YouTube so we can pray together,

Choose one of these discipline characteristics of prayer and fasting that work for you that you Can observe to keep you closer when you pray on the seven days: 1) Reduce your daily diet, 2) read the bible three chapters daily, 3) turn off the telephone for seven days, which will keep you closer to your daily prayer time. Amen.

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