

- I. We stand firm together by agreeing in the Lord (v. 1-3)

- A. We must agree in the Lord when there is conflict

“Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” (Ephesians 4:3)

- B. The church can help others to agree in the Lord

- II. We stand firm together by rejoicing in the Lord (v. 4)

- A. Our joy comes from our relationship with Christ

- B. Joy is always possible

“Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.” (Habakkuk 3:17-18)

- III. We stand firm together by demonstrating a gentle spirit (v. 5)

- IV. We stand firm together by praying (v. 6)

- A. We need to replace worry with prayer

“Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?” (Matthew 6:27)

- B. We need to pray about everything

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

- C. We need to pray with a thankful heart

- V. We stand firm together by experiencing God’s peace (v. 7)

- A. The peace of God is beyond our understanding

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” (John 14:27)

- B. The peace of God will protect our hearts

- C. The peace of God will protect our thoughts

“You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.” (Isaiah 26:3)

- VI. We stand firm together by guarding our thought life (v. 8)

“We demolish arguments against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” (2 Corinthians 10:5)

- A. We think about what is true
- B. We think about what is noble
- C. We think about what is right
- D. We think about what is pure
- E. We think about what is lovely
- F. We think about what is admirable

VII. We stand firm together by applying our spiritual knowledge (v. 9)