

# ***Pursuing Jesus: Discovering His Joy***

*Hold Fast'*

April 28, 2024 // Sermon Study Guide // Pastor Jon

**Text:** Philippians 4:1

**Truth Points:** What truth was covered this Sunday in the message?

1. We are given three chapters of information that we are now told “therefore” take this action.
2. The love of a healthy church, and healthy church relationships, is seen throughout this book - Paul’s yearning for them (1:8), Epaphroditus’ longing to return (2:26), and now Paul’s endearing description (4:1). Healthy people grow. Healthy Christians thrive. Healthy Churches love each other.
3. Action point of the book - Stand Firm! In light of all God has done, Jesus has done, Paul has done, they had endured, and what was to come - Stand Firm! Christians are to be people of conviction which leads to action. Love, serve, endure, be patient, be gentle, be kind, be bold, be strong, stand firm.
4. Where do Christians stand? “In the Lord.” He defines who we are and how we are to live. We stand in Him.

**Reflection Points:** How does God want me to think, feel, act, and speak because of this truth?

1. Have I paid attention to the last three chapters? Do I know well enough to now use it? Will I be able to stand, to speak, to live consistently and boldly for Christ because of it?
2. Do I love my church family? For many, church is a place or an occasion. For Paul, for Timothy, for Epaphroditus, for Jesus the church is a people. “The world will know you are my disciples, if you love one another” (John 13:35)
3. Where do I need to Stand Firm? It may be in my faith. Trusting Jesus through my fears and doubts. It may be in relationships. Removing harmful ones, or restoring broken ones. It may be with those who knock on my door or perhaps even with those inside my door.
4. Wherever that hill to die on is found - I am not alone. “I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matt. 28:20).

**Action Points:** What am I going to do **this week** because of this truth?

1. **Read** — Philippians 1:1-4:1
2. **Reflect** — on the following:
  - Monday – Philippians 1 — Jesus is My Focus
  - Tuesday – Philippians 2 — Jesus is Me Example
  - Wednesday – Philippians 3 — Jesus is My Everything
  - Thursday – Philippians 4:1 - Jesus is My Firm Foundation
  - Friday – Philippians 4 - Jesus is All I Need
3. **Memorize** — 4:1
4. **Ask** — yourself these questions every day this week:
  - Is My Everything?
  - How can I love my Church Family? Do I love the Family, even if they don't go to my church?
  - Where will I stand for Jesus today?
5. **Pray** — “Lord, grant me the grace to know your word, grant me the will to love your family, grant me the strength to stand firm in you!”