



Sunday May 16, 2021
Faith and Fortitude

The impact of the second wave of the pandemic on our nation has been grave. Unlike what happened in 2020, what we are seeing in 2021 is extreme. Almost all of us know of people personally who have been affected by the virus.

So how should we process all that is going on around us.
We will speak about some practical things over the next two weeks.

This week we will address what we need at a personal level to journey through this crisis.
Next week, what we can do together, as a community.

TWO MAJOR CHALLENGES WE FACE AT A PERSONAL LEVEL:
FEAR, ANXIETY, PANIC,
HOPELESSNESS, DESPAIR, GIVING UP, FATIGUE – NO MORE FIGHT IN THEM.

Hebrews 11:1 (AMPC)
...[faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].

NURTURE YOUR FAITH WITH THE WORD OF GOD.

Psalm 27:1-2

Psalm 91:7,10

Jeremiah 29:11

COMBAT FEAR WITH FAITH

RENEW YOUR MIND WITH THE WORD OF GOD.

COMBAT HOPELESSNESS WITH FORTITUDE

Fortitude = strength of mind that enables a person to encounter danger or bear pain or adversity with courage. (www.merriam-webster.com)

FORTITUDE IS MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL STRENGTH THAT ENABLES COURAGE IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY.

Imagine being a medical doctor attending to covid patients. Think about people in certain professions: fire fighters, soldiers, astronauts, medical personnel....



WAITING ON GOD BUILDS FORTITUDE

As believers we are strengthened by waiting on the Lord

Psalm 27:14

Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

Isaiah 40:28-31

28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable.

29 He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength.

30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall,

31 But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

Luke 10:38-42

38 Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house.

39 And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word.

40 But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me."

41 And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things.

42 But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

- 1, WAITING INVOLVES SITTING AND LISTENING
- 2, DON'T LET 'MUCH SERVING' DISTRACT YOU FROM WAITING
- 3, DON'T LET 'MANY THINGS' CAUSE YOU TO BE WORRIED AND TROUBLED
- 4, MAKE WAITING ON HIM AS THE MAIN THING
- 5, WAITING ON GOD IS A CHOICE YOU MAKE
- 6, JESUS DRAWS US IN TO WAITING ON HIM
- 7, WAITING ON HIM PRECEDES SERVING HIM

Stay refreshed. Let waiting precede serving.

KNOWING YOUR PURPOSE IN GOD INSPIRES FORTITUDE

As believer we are strengthened by knowing our purpose



John 12:27

"Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour.

Keep your eyes on the purpose, like Jesus.

Hebrews 12:2

looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

For us we are journeying for the long term, and hence the question to ask is:

IN THE LIGHT OF MY PURPOSE IN GOD, WHAT DOES THIS SEASON DEMAND FROM ME?

HOW WILL THE THINGS I DO NOW IN THIS SEASON, CONTRIBUTE TO THE PURPOSE OF GOD, ONCE WE EMERGE FROM THIS SEASON.

Conclusion

JOURNEY WITH FAITH AND FORTITUDE THROUGH THIS SEASON.

KEEP YOUR FAITH ALIVE AND YOUR FORTITUDE ENERGIZED.

COMBAT FEAR WITH FAITH.

COMBAT HOPELESSNESS WITH FORTITUDE.

NURTURE YOUR FAITH WITH THE WORD OF GOD.

PRAYER

SALVATION CALL

The GOSPEL (Good News) in brief.

Here is how we RECEIVE the Good News for our personal lives.

We make it a simple A,B,C,D. We must:

ACKNOWLEDGE: our sin, the consequences of our sin, and our need for a Savior

BELIEVE: in Jesus Christ, in who He is and what He has done on the Cross, personally

CONFESS: Jesus Christ as the Lord and Savior of our lives

DECIDE: to follow Jesus Christ as His disciple for the rest of our lives



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

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The following is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at apcwo.org/sermons. Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passages: Isaiah 40:28-31; Psalm 91; Luke 10:38-42

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

#1, Discuss in your group, how each one is processing the current situation ('second wave' of the pandemic) across India. What are some challenges (1 or 2 primary challenges) each one is facing, and how are you overcoming those challenges?

#2, How can having faith in God's Word and renewing one's mind to the Word of God, help overcome these challenges?

#3, Fortitude is the mental and emotional strength to be courageous in adversity. How can waiting on God and working towards God's purpose, inspire and energize fortitude, as we journey through adversity?



If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey.

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another.

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

- 1, families to be protected and strengthened.*
- 2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*
- 3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.*

Close by thanking God together.



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>