



DAILY READINGS

30TH MARCH - 4TH APRIL

A big THANK YOU to Louise Davis for blessing us with the final week of daily notes.

EPHESIANS 30th March 2026

HOW DO WE STAND FIRM IN OUR MARRIAGE?

READ: Ephesians 5:22-33 *Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.....Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the Church and gave Himself for her. (v. 21 Mutual submission in love)*

SUBMISSION – as to the Lord....what does this mean for you?

- Is this an absolutely negative term for you? When might it be positive?
- Paul compares the husband's love in marriage to Christ's love as the head of the church. What responsibilities does the husband have?
- How can wives honour their husbands as the church honours Christ?
- Consider love and respect - is there a difference?

(questions from *Ephesians* Max Lucado)

Submission to one another is only authentic if it truly comes from the heart. **Saying "YES" on the outside, while shouting "NO" on the inside** is not submission. What else may it be? Is this your usual story?

- Are your rights more important than your relationships?

READ: Luke 22.41

WHAT WAS THE KEY FACTOR IN JESUS' SUBMISSION TO THE FATHER?

- How does prayer impact your willingness to submit to God's will?

PRAYER: *Help, Lord!* Help me to align my heart, my will and my spirit to Yours, at home, at sport, at school, wherever You may lead me. **Amen.**

EPHESIANS 31st March 2026

HOW DO WE STAND FIRM? FIGHT FOR THE FAMILY

READ: Eph. 6:1-9

Paul now turns his attention to other situations where authority and submission were a constant challenge – parents and children / slaves and masters.

- In the Bible, where will you find the first instance of rebellion against authority?
- Why do so many people rebel against authority today?

Paul aligns obedience to parents, and honouring of parents, as part of a child's response to God's righteousness and commandments. The only commandment with a promised blessing is to honour your parents.
(Ex. 20:12) It's obviously extremely important to God.

Disciplining your children without provoking them to anger is not easy; but consistent love and self-control certainly help.

- Our Master is the Lord Jesus, how can I best reflect His Lordship?

When you find yourself reacting to another's authority, ask yourself,

- Why am I reacting like this? What do I need to learn from this?

As a voluntary slave of Christ, Paul instructs you to
DO THE WILL OF GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART.

PRAYER: Father, I need your humility and wisdom. Give me the grace, Lord, to honour those you have placed in authority over me. **Amen.**

EPHESIANS 1st April 2026
HOW DO WE STAND FIRM?

READING: Ephesians 6:10-13 Be strong in the Lord

Whether you're aware of it, or not, every day the enemy is looking for an opportunity to keep you ineffective and unfruitful in your walk with Christ. But we are not alone. In Christ, we have divine protection.
WE HAVE POWERFUL ARMOUR

- **Speak the truth** in love.
- Allow the Holy Spirit to bring **Jesus' righteousness** alive through you.
- **Pursue God's peace.** It does not depend on your circumstances, it flows from your relationship with Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
- **Practice faith.** Believe your beliefs and doubt your doubts.
- **Celebrate your salvation.**
- **Nourish yourself in God's Word,** every day.

This will keep you from being an easy target for the devil. Stay in fellowship, encourage one another, and pray. Bring your struggles, your failures, to Jesus. The Holy Spirit can bring you freedom. It's real. And it's wonderful. *It's the truth that sets you free, and when the Son sets you free, you are free indeed.*

Prayer: Dear Lord, you died to set me free. Show me how to step into that freedom through Your Powerful Name. Amen.

EPHESIANS 2nd April 2026
HOW DO WE STAND FIRM?

READING: Eph. 6:14-17 Dressed for Battle...

HOW TO STAND YOUR GROUND - (! Samuel 17:38-49)

David did not run away from the advancing, taunting Goliath, he ran towards him. Goliath was heavily armoured for battle. David had a slingshot, five stones, and faith in his all - powerful God. That brought him VICTORY. ***"This is the Lord's battle and he will give you to us,"*** was David's battle cry. Are you armed for the battle of life? The enemy thrives on lies, deception, division, hatred, gossip, and unforgiveness.

HOW DO YOU LIVE IN VICTORY? Put your trust in God, not yourself. *SUBMIT yourselves to God. RESIST THE DEVIL and he will flee from you. (James 4.7) THE HOLY SPIRIT in you* is the power by which you stand against the enemy's lies and temptations.

- How can you know the voice of the Spirit, amidst other voices?
- How can you stand firm in your faith?
- *The Word of God is alive and powerful, sharper than a two edged sword.* When have you experienced the power of God's Word, giving you victory?

Prayer: Loving Father, at times I feel so vulnerable. Increase my faith in your Word, to wear Your armour, and to trust in You. Amen.

EPHESIANS 6.18-24 Good Friday 3rd April 2026
HOW DO WE STAND FIRM?

PRAY PRAY PRAY

v.18 Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion.

Praying in the Spirit is prayer that arises from the Spirit of God within us.

Paul describes this in **1 Cor. 14.14-17**

If I pray in tongues, my spirit is praying, but I don't understand what I am praying. Well then, what shall I do? I will pray in the spirit and I will also pray in words I understand. For if you praise God only in the spirit how can those who don't understand you praise God along with you?

Back to v. 12 *"Since you are so eager to have the special abilities the Spirit gives, SEEK THE GIFTS THAT WILL STRENGTHEN THE WHOLE CHURCH.*

Whether we are praying in tongues, or in our own language, or in silence.....

GOD IS LONGING TO HEAR US PRAY. Our whole life in Christ hinges on our relationship with Him, and the line of communication given by God is PRAYER.

Never under estimate the power of a simple prayer of faith.

And NEVER GIVE UP.

Ask. and keep on asking. seek. and keep on seeking. knock. and keep on knocking.... AND THE DOOR WILL BE OPENED BY GOD. FOR YOU. (Matt.7.7)

What was Paul's final prayer request? *To get out of chains, out of prison? No.*

"Pray for me, that God gives me the right words.....Pray that I will keep speaking boldly for Him, as I should" .

PRAY: Dear Lord, may that be my prayer also, not self-centred, but kingdom focussed, Christ centred praying. Holy Spirit, pray through me. **Amen.**

Easter Saturday April 4th 2026

1 Peter 5.6-11

HOW DO WE STAND FIRM?

THE FINAL WORD FOR THIS STUDY, WRAPS IT ALL UP.

The Apostle Peter had suffered much in his journey of faith;
and he encourages us to be strong, and *not intimidated by a defeated enemy.*

HUMBLE YOURSELVES under the mighty power of God

And at the right time He will lift you up in honour.

Now, that's quite a promise!

GIVE ALL YOUR WORRIES AND CARES TO GOD.

And leave them there!

For he cares for you.

Stay alert to the wiles of the devil.

TAKE A DECISIVE STAND AGAINST HIM

and resist every attack with strong, vigorous faith.

REMEMBER YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST

Who are suffering for their faith.

Above everything, remember Jesus, His wonderful teaching,

His irreproachable life, His inexhaustible love, His sacrifice,

His heart for the lost, the persecuted, the bound and the sick.

Thank you Lord for your salvation, your grace, and Your Word,

equipping me to serve you with power, to live in victory, obedience

and freedom. *To God be the glory. Great things He has*

done. Amen.