

STANDING OUT: A Standing Church

2 THESSALONIANS 1:1-4

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Do you believe that we're living in the last days? What concerns your heart about the "end times?" Today we've seen that God doesn't want us to be despairing, and he wants us to shine with brilliance. Of these five main points, which one will be your main focus this week and why?
2. Where do you see growing faith in your life and the church's life? What can we do now to focus on increasing our faith? How will you encourage others who you see growing in their faith? How can we encourage others who are in a trial to see their valley as a moment of growing faith?
3. If a young Christian came to you and said, "my trial must mean that God doesn't love me," what would you say? What scriptures could you use?
4. Why is it so important not to grumble in trials? What does it say about someone constantly grumbling amid hard days? Conversely, what is conveyed when we suffer displaying patient endurance?

Quote for the Week. . .

by R. Kent Hughes



"Brothers and sisters, the coming of Christ is near. The ultimate epiphany is just around the corner. If we think otherwise, we tragically impoverish our souls. Most Christians think little of Christ's return, or if they do think about the day they will see Christ, they associate it with the day of their death. This is a proper hope, but death is not a pleasant thing, and thus the expectation of seeing Christ is mixed with a certain fear of the dark veil. But it is not so with His Second Coming. It is all joy! And that singular joy is meant to be a boon to our souls."