

# “STAND FIRM”

Philippians 3:17-4:1 - Pastor Mike Churchill

## How do we stand firm?

*Exhortation*

*E-Warning*

*Encouragement*

### Take Home Truth

We \_\_\_\_\_ in our faith when we \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, striving to be \_\_\_\_\_.

**Today's Core Practice:**

**Eternity:** *"I will fellowship with other Christians because God has called me to love and encourage others."  
(from Hebrews 10:24-25)*

**Today's Action:** Spend some time focusing on the attributes of Christ.



## Deeper Connection Study

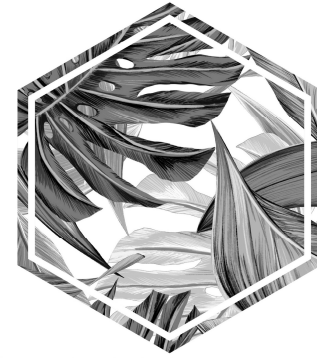
As great as it is to know Christ and represent him, there are many who oppose Christ and the gospel. Paul calls attention to proper imitation of godly role models and reminds us about our true citizenship.

*Today's Core Practice discussed:* **Biblical Community.**

### Read Philippians 3:17-4:1

1. Why does Paul exhort his readers to imitate him while also following the example of others (3:17; cf. 1 Cor. 4:16; 1 Pt. 5:3)?
2. Who do you imitate and follow? What draws you to their example?
3. What contrast is made concerning Christians and the "enemies of the cross of Christ" (3:18-21)? What are the characteristics and destiny of each group?
4. What is significant about Paul's assertion of our citizenship in heaven (3:20)?
5. In view of worldly temptations and opposition to your faith, how do you stand firm in the Lord (4:1)? In what areas do you struggle?
6. What areas of your life do you desire Jesus to transform? What do you think it will take for this to happen?

**PRAYER TO THE POINT:** Praise God for granting Christians citizenship in heaven. Thank God for mentors and those who have influenced you for Christ. Pray that you stand firm in the Lord in the face of opposition.



# life is good.

## Finding Joy in Tough Times

**Sunday, July 21, 2019**

Did you ever play the game "Telephone" as a kid? You sit in a circle and one child whispers something to the child next to them. That child then repeats that phrase to the best of their ability to the next child and by the time the phrase gets around the circle to the original child it sounds nothing like the original phrase.

Whatever the first child intended for the last child to hear was obscured by repeated misunderstanding and inaccurate listening or simply by someone trying to sound different. How do we keep that from happening in our spiritual lives as we grow together with other believers? In today's passage Paul exhorts us to follow others but how do we know who to follow and if their example is correct?

