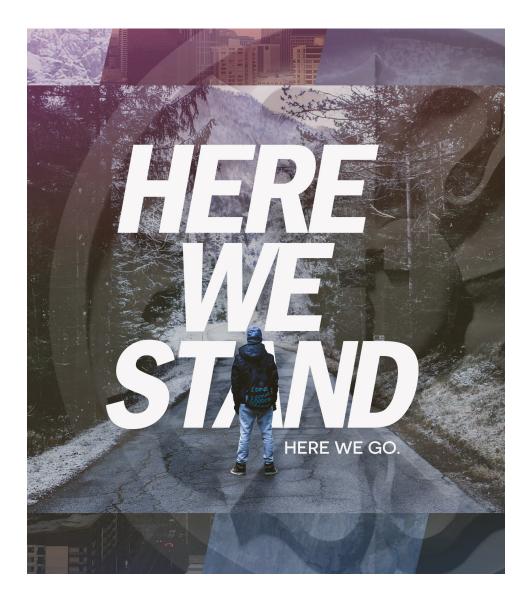
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SERMON SERIES STUDY GUIDE

NORTH: Sept. 13/17 | SOUTH: Sept. 20/24 | CHAPEL: October 1





Pastor Chuck Olmstead



This study guide was written by the Pastors at Hope Lutheran Church in Fargo, ND. Find this resource and others at *FARGOHOPE.ORG/RESOURCES*

HERE WE STAND

READ: Romans 1:16-17; John 1:1-5, 10-14

As followers of Jesus Christ, we stand firmly on the Good News of Jesus. His life, teachings, death and subsequent resurrection are the foundation for who we are as followers of Jesus. As the Gospel of John reminds us, Jesus is God's Word become flesh full of grace and truth revealing God's glory to us. (John 1:14) The challenge we face is our own sin and this broken world. Our sin and the voices of this shattered world constantly work to pull us off the foundation we have in Christ Jesus. Our response to that challenge is to stand firm upon God's saving work in Christ. That is why worship, devotional study and prayer are important. These acts of faith and devotion to Christ keep us firmly rooted on that strong foundation. We are followers of Jesus. It is who we are called to be by God himself. We need to work daily at this call in our lives by asking ourselves "What is God up to in my life and what is my response?" As St. Paul reminds us, "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes." (Romans 1:16)

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. In your own words, describe what it means to "stand on the Word of God."

2. What challenges do you face in your efforts to stand on the Good News of Christ?

- 3. Which is a greater challenge in terms of your efforts to stand on the Good News: your own sin or the brokenness of this world? Discuss.
- 4. In your own words, describe what it means to not be ashamed of the gospel?
- 5. How does John 1:14 reveal the glory of God?
- 6. What best practices have you implemented in your life for standing firm upon the Good News?
- 7. What is God currently up to in your life and what is your response as you seek to follow him?

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your Son, full of grace and truth to lead me to life with you. I confess, Lord, that my own sin and the challenges of this world test and tempt me. And yet, Lord, I desire with all my heart to stand firmly upon the Good News of your Son's saving work for my life. I renew my commitment to respond to your call to follow you. Lead me, guide me, and by your grace and truth, show me the way to life with you. Amen.