



Grace Assembly Of God

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	2 Thessalonians 2	Title:	Stand Firm and Hold Strong
Author	Tay Yi Hang		
Summary of Chapter	Paul assures the Thessalonians that they have not missed the coming of the Lord. He reminds them that the lawless one and great rebellion against the Lord will be signs of the end times and encourages them to hold firm to the faith and the teachings of Christ.		

Key Verse(s) NLT How does it speak to me?

<i>¹⁵ With all these things in mind, dear brothers and sisters, stand firm and keep a strong grip on the teaching we passed on to you both in person and by letter.</i>	<p>I have always wondered what the future may hold. In this chapter, Paul reveals a bit on what will be happening before Jesus' return. He speaks of a great rebellion against God, of false teachings and of the antichrist. All in all, a rather bleak situation. Looking around me, I see that the world has seemed to move inexorably towards the picture that Paul paints. There seems to be more people turning away from God and religion while subscribing to relativism. People seem more divided than ever and major disasters and tragedies seem to be coming wave after wave.</p> <p>However, within the bleakness of the future that Paul describes is also the hope that we hold on to. He speaks of how the Lord Jesus will slay the antichrist with the breath of his mouth and the splendour of His coming. It tells me that the future where evil triumphs is only temporary and evil cannot even stand in the presence of Jesus when He returns. With this in mind, what are we as Christians to do?</p> <p>Paul spells it out very clearly in our key verse for today where he extolls us to stand firm and keep a strong grip on the teachings of Christ. This will allow us to identify false teachings or revelations, and keep us encouraged even when it seems like evil is winning all around us. As I read the verse, I also notice that Paul uses many active verbs, such as standing and having a strong grip. It shows me that we are not only to know God's word and teaching but we are to actively actualise it. In doing so, Christ's teaching becomes more than just head knowledge, but becomes demonstrated in our lives and actions.</p>
--	--

APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	How can we keep a strong grip onto Christ's teachings and pass it on to others?
Youth:	What does it mean to stand firm for your faith in front of your friends?
Child:	Who can we look to for help when things seem to go wrong around us?

PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Dear heavenly Father, we thank You for we know You will be victorious in the end. Please help us to stand firm in the face of adversity and keep a strong grip on Your teachings.
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.