



ENDURANCE: Kneel Down and Man Up!

Always Abounding in Serving through the Local Church – Part 2

Lesson 8 • 1 Corinthians 16:13-16

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.”

If There is One Essential for Always Abounding in Serving the Lord and His Local Church, It's _____!

- **A Historical Example of Endurance:** The story of how explorer **Ernest Shackleton and his crew on the ship, *Endurance***, a survived a failed attempt to cross the continent of Antarctica on foot via the South Pole!
- **A Scriptural Example of Endurance:** The story of how **Stephanas and his household** were always abounding in serving the Lord and His local church in Corinth! *1Corinthians 16:13-16*

**Those Who Always Abound in Serving the Lord and His Local Church...
Are Examples of Endurance as They Kneel Down and Man Up!**

Be An Example of Endurance in Always Serving the Lord and His Local Church

1. Kneel Down: _____ to Serving the Lord and His Local Church.

The Example of Stephanas and His Household – 1 Corinthians 16:15-16

- First fruits that are still abounding in serving the Lord and His local church.
- First fruits that dedicated themselves to serving the Lord and His local church.

What Does that Mean?

- 1) Serving (*“for ministry to the saints”*) and Helping (*“everyone who helps”*)
- 2) Working (*“in the work”*) and Laboring (*“and labors”*)
- 2) Surrendering (*“devoted”*) and Volunteering (*“themselves”*)

They voluntarily knelt down and said to the Lord:

“I will work hard at serving Your people and helping others to do the same!”

Who Are the Saints and Where Do They Gather?

How Did They Dedicate Themselves?

- 1) First they gave themselves to _____ out of love! *1 Corinthians 8:5; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15*
- 2) Then they gave themselves to serving _____ and His church! *1 Corinthians 16:15; 15:58; Rom 12:1-2*

2. Man Up: _____ in Serving the Lord and His Local Church.

The Endurance of Stephanas and His Household

Five Essentials for Endurance in Serving – 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

- Stay alert in _____.

Prayer Is Essential to Staying Spiritually Alert: *Ephesians 6:18; Colossians 4:2; Matthew 26:38, 40*

- 1) Pray that you won't let your guard down to _____. *Matthew 6:13*
- 2) Pray that you won't stop looking, longing, and living for Christ's soon _____. *Mark 13:34-37; Revelation 3:1-3; 1 Thess 5:6*

- Stand firm in the _____.

Applying God's Word Is Essential to Standing Firm in the Word

- 1) Let it save you and change _____! *2Timothy 3:15-16*
- 2) Share it to save others and change _____! *2Timothy 3:17*

- Step forward in _____.

Taking the Initiative to Follow Christ Is Essential to Stepping Forward in Obedience

- 1) _____ to helping others possess all God has promised to them! *Joshua 1:6*
- 2) _____ that God has commanded you to do. *Joshua 1:7*
- 3) _____ to never leave you or forsake you. *Joshua 1:9*

- Seek strength from the _____.

Trusting in the Gospel Is Essential to Seeking Strength from the Lord: *Psalms 27:14; Philippians 4:13; Ephesians 6:10*

- Saturate _____ with love.

Saturating Everything with Love Is Essential to Endurance: *1Corinthians 13:1-3, 7-8; 16:24*

You Too Can Be an Example of Endurance!

"To this present hour we are both hungry and thirsty, and are poorly clothed, and are roughly treated, and are homeless; and we toil, working with our own hands; when we are reviled, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure;" 1 Corinthians 4:11-12

"If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us;" 2Timothy 2:12

But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry." 2Timothy 4:5

"For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory." 2Timothy 2:10

- **Kneel Down Today:** Dedicate yourself to working hard at serving the Lord and His people and to helping others do the same!
- **Man Up Every Day:** Determine to always abound in serving the Lord in spite of obstacles and opposition! Leave a legacy of ENDURANCE!