

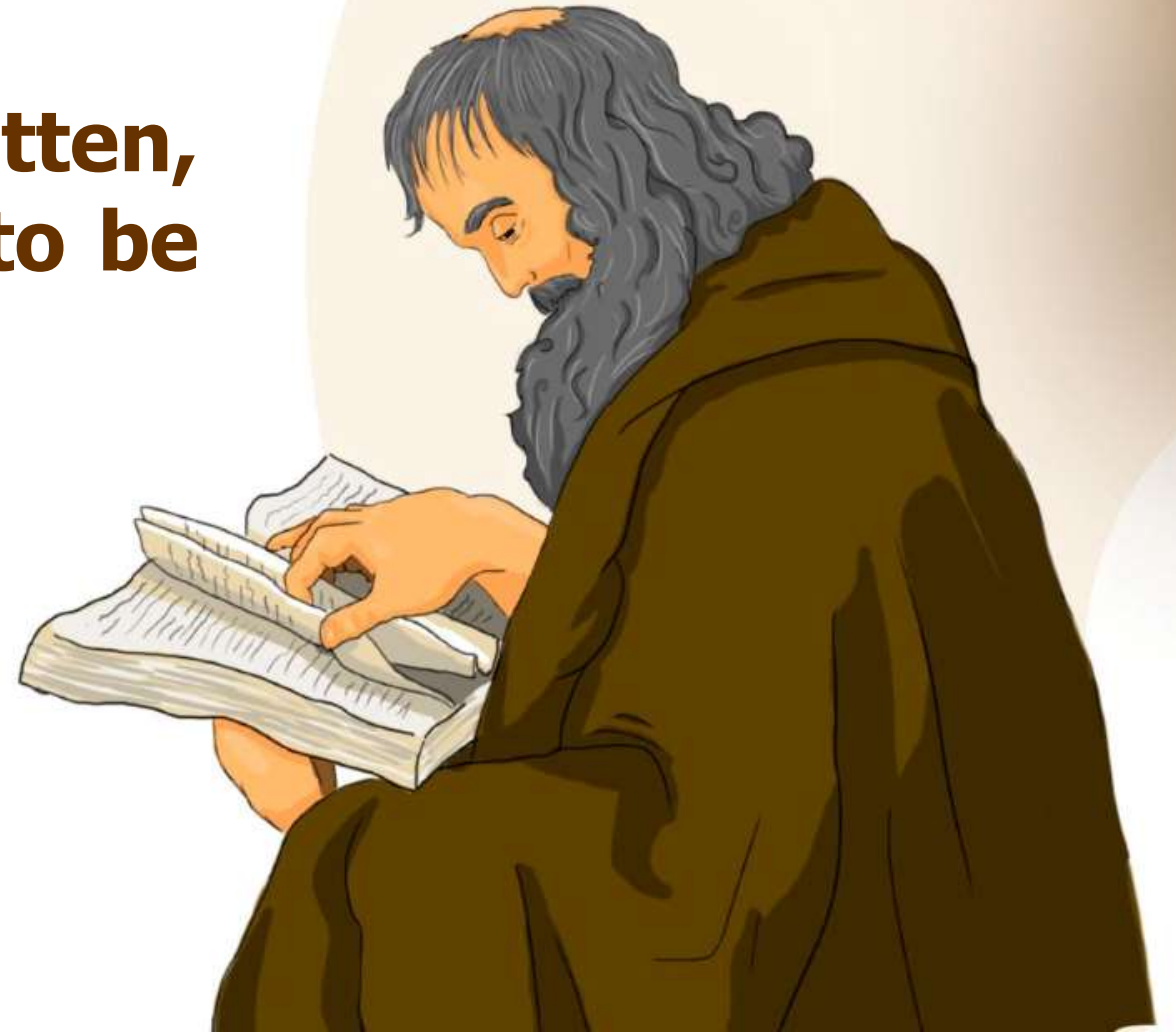
1 Corinthians 15:58, ESV

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain”

Paul brings his instruction and teaching to a formal conclusion.

Considering all he has written, he urges the Corinthians to be strong and faithful.

More specifically, he tells them he loves them, referring to them as beloved brothers.





When we see the word *therefore* in Scripture, we should always back up to see why it is there.

“Therefore” - indicates a summation of what was previously stated.

Paul addresses those who had fallen away from his original teaching on the resurrection.



ABLE — TO — STAND



1

The Character

2

The Core

3

The Credulity



The Character



Three words deserve attention.

“Steadfast”

“Immovable”

“Abounding”

1. **“STEADFAST”** comes from the Greek word **“hedraios,”** which means *being seated or set on a solid foundation*.

2. **“IMMOVABLE”** comes from **“ametakinetos,”** which means *to stay put, to be rooted in place, and to refuse to be dislodged*.

- To be steadfast and immovable is to be spiritually grounded.

A steadfast person knows what he believes and cannot be “tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching” (Ephesians 4:14).

“I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent’s cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ” (2 Corinthians 11:3).

- To remain steadfast and unmovable we have to know the Word of God.

2 Timothy 2:15 says, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth”.

To accurately handle the word of truth, we must not only read the Bible, but we must allow it to become part of us.

Its truth should so penetrate our minds and hearts that it shapes our thinking and our actions.

It is God’s desire that we grow daily in our understanding of Him and His Word so that we will remain faithful to the end.

3. “**ABOUNDING**” comes from “**perisseuo,**” meaning *to be exceptional, to surpass the expected standard.*

God gives each believer ways in which to serve Him, by serving each other in the church. Believers should be doing so with enthusiasm.

Our commitment to the call of Christ in our life –
EXCELLENCE.



(2 Timothy 2:15), *Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.*

“Abounding in the work of the Lord,” has its root at the words of the prophet Jeremiah: *“Cursed is he who does the work of the LORD with slackness”* **(Jeremiah 48:10).**

Believers not to *“grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up”* **(Galatians 6:9).**

The term *abounding* also means “*being abundant or plentiful, going beyond, or producing or existing in large quantities.*”

The work of the Lord refers to the work of preaching, teaching, and being a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Believers can always be abounding in the work of the Lord no matter what we do to further the kingdom of God.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving”(Colossians 3:23-24).

To church elders, preachers, teachers, and ministry leaders: *“And you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind. Let everything you do reflect the integrity and seriousness of your teaching. Teach the truth so that your teaching can’t be criticized. Then those who oppose us will be ashamed and have nothing bad to say about us” Titus 2:7-8.*

2

The Core



The Resurrection of Jesus stands at the core of the gospel and Christian living.

Without Jesus' resurrection, Christianity would be rendered meaningless.



1 Corinthians 15:14–17 *And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.*

After affirming the certainty of a future resurrection for all believers, Paul urges them to stand fast, because ultimately, the reality of the resurrection gives meaning to our Christian work. Because of the resurrection, our labor in the Lord is not in vain.

The Christian lifestyle encompasses blessings, responsibilities, and trials.

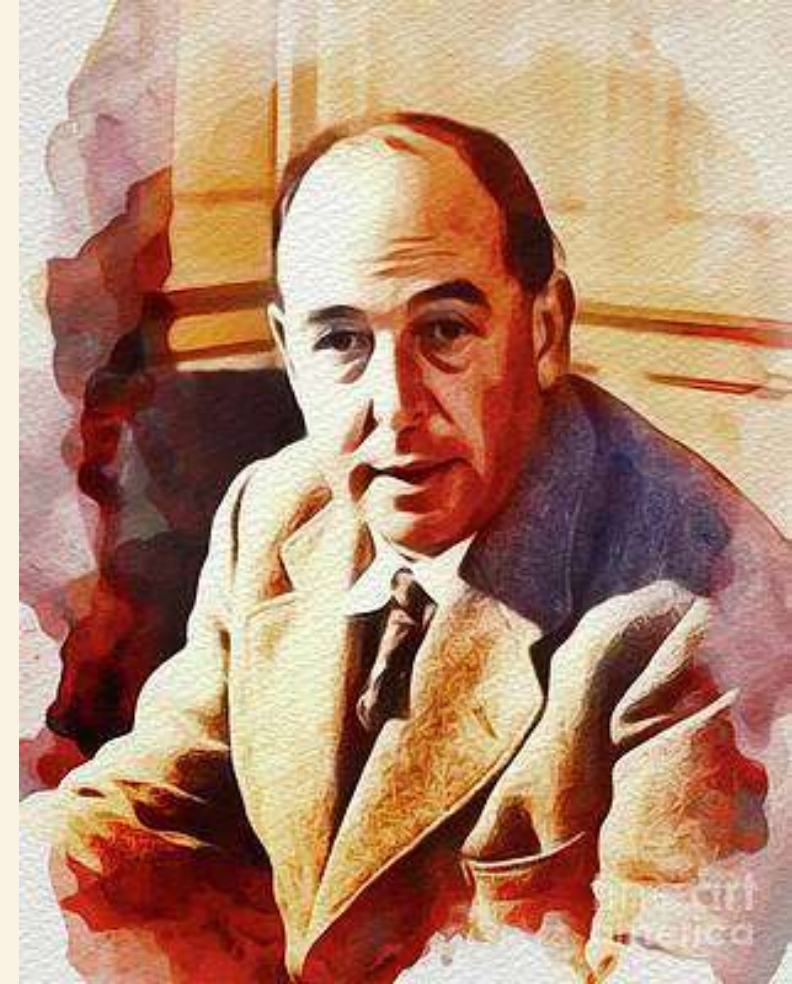
While we relish the blessings, we may grow weary of doing good and disheartened when facing trials and temptations.

Jesus' resurrection serves as undeniable proof that we, too, will experience resurrection.

Our labor should be **“in the Lord.”- work dedicated to the expansion of God's kingdom.**

“Don't be so heavenly minded that you're no earthly good,”

C. S. Lewis: *“If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next”.*



Jesus said, “If you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded” (Matthew 10:42).

Whatever is done for Christ is not done in vain.

“God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them” (Hebrews 6:10).

We can always be steadfast, immovable and abounding in the work of the Lord if we keep the same tenacious attitude as Paul.

**“Never tire of doing what is good”
(2 Thessalonians 3:13).**

We are not called to idleness but to diligence.

Question:

Do you have Paul's tenacity?



3

The Credulity

Credulity = vulnerability.

Staying steadfast and immovable is not just a matter of trying harder.

It requires knowing our **specific vulnerabilities**.

1. Doubt

It is not the healthy kind that leads to deeper conviction, but the kind that festers quietly when a man stops engaging Scripture and starts absorbing the assumptions of the culture around him.

Ephesians 4:14). *Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.*

2. Busyness

A man who is constantly rushing rarely has the margin to be spiritually grounded.

Good things crowd out the best things.

3. Isolation

A man who has no one asking him hard questions or holding him accountable is a man who is more likely to drift.

4. Moral compromise.

It rarely happens in one dramatic moment. It happens in a hundred small decisions where a man chooses comfort over conviction.

Serving God faithfully requires the kind of integrity that holds in private, not just in public.

5. Discontentment

It pulls men away from stability in ways they do not always recognize.

A man who is always striving for something else due to discontentment, rarely plants himself deeply enough to be steadfast and immovable where God has placed him.

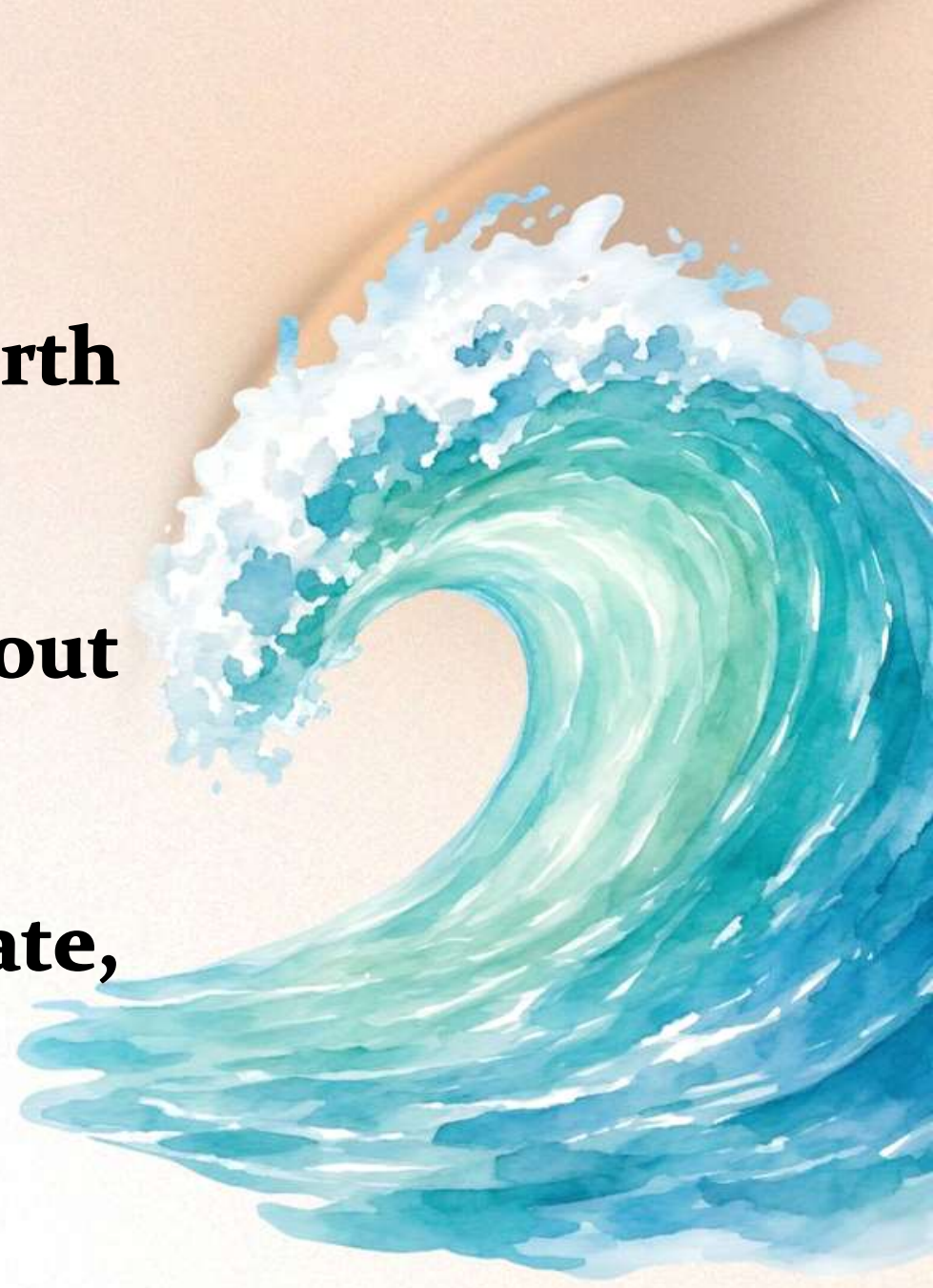
Our life is focused on our chores not on the **CORE**.

Many of us are not living right.

**We have been tossed back and forth
by waves because of doubt.**

**We allow good things to crowd out
the best things.**

**We refuse accountability – we isolate,
we do not involve.**



We have been striving to reach something else but God.

And there is an issue and question about your moral life.

Due to our credulity or being vulnerable, it is difficult and almost impossible to be stable

Theme: Resurrection of Christ.

It reminds us that Jesus died on the cross and was buried but was raised on the 3rd day (1 Cor. 15: 4).

The Resurrection of Jesus stands at the core of the gospel and Christian living.

Without Jesus' resurrection, Christianity would be rendered meaningless.

There would be no resurrection if there was no death.

Therefore, we must die first to the things that destabilize our faith in order to rise anew.

Jesus took death for you and He made a way for you to rise anew when He rose from the dead.

CONCLUSION:

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

What are the things that you need to let go which you know have caused you to fall? If you have a plan to rise and get right, do it now. Because the grace of God is here. Do not wait for the judgment later.