



Intro to Pauline Epistles

Equipping so that...we Root the Paradigm



Psalm 30 (NRSV)

¹ I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

² O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.

³ O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

⁴ Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.

⁵ For his anger is but for a moment;
his favor is for a lifetime.

**Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.**

⁶ As for me, I said in my prosperity,

 "I shall never be moved."

By your favor, O Lord,

you had established me as a strong mountain;

you hid your face;
I was dismayed.

⁸ **To you, O Lord, I cried,
and to the Lord I made supplication:**

⁹ "What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?

Will the dust praise you?

Will it tell of your faithfulness?

¹⁰ Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!
O Lord, be my helper!"

¹¹ **You have turned my mourning into dancing;**

you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,

¹² **so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.**

O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Family Updates and Reports

- Caleb - returning from working with Latin leaders in Panama
- Steve - China then India work
- Jeff - Bangkok for checkup, Mongolia, Bangladesh, China - returns April 13

- April 8th - Monday 6-8 - apostolic team meeting
- April 8th - Monday 8-10 - All leaders meeting
 - discuss giving sheets update
 - discuss kerygmatic communities encyclical??

Summary of Working with Leaders on Mastering TWCA

Hong Kong, China

- Dedication of Praise Assembly Church
- Worked with Hong Kong group on paradigm of TWCA and our educational processes
- Met with Hugo at his home to work on global resource center ideas
- Met with Abraham to discuss translation of BILD resources and global resource center
- Steve and I met with “implementation leaders” from all Chinese cohorts
- Met with cell groups in ICC building, discussed “what is a church”

Panama City, Panama

- Met with apostolic leadership team for Latin America - translations, cloud updates, educational systems
- Led paradigm discussions with Latin civilization cohort, uploading and assessing work in cloud

Latin Update from Caleb

Pauline Epistles

Utilizing the Pauline Epistles course to:

- equip you with a foundation to establish and shepherd your churches
- equip you with a foundation to move through Jeff's Mastering Scriptures in Paul's letters
- provide opportunity for other leaders to lead us in these fundamental teachings
- familiarize everyone with one of the core courses in our educational pathways

Pauline Epistles

BILD was formed from the belief that one of the greatest needs of the church worldwide is for **quality resources to be made available to assist churches in training their spiritual leaders in the context of their own church.**

Each course was developed with this objective in mind.

This also describes the most basic work of the BILD team when traveling around the world.

Pauline Epistles

Pauline Epistles: Strategies for Establishing Churches is one of the foundational courses and is part of a series of ministry courses designed to help a person develop a biblical philosophy of ministry and the skills required to put that philosophy into practice. It assumes an understanding of the book of Acts and builds upon the principles established in that course.

Its role in the entire curriculum is to give a broad exposure to the biblical framework of life and ministry within a church, creating an understanding of the context in which the spiritual growth of a believer is to take place. **The course centers on developing the foundational philosophy and guidelines that will establish a local church in this century.**

Pauline Epistles

Outline of Each Issue:

- Biblical Passages
- Theological Readings
- Socratic Questions
- Projects

—————→
...its on the internet..

Assessment System:

- 5 summary principles, called competencies
- demonstrate these 5 principles and you have “mastered” the principles
- all of this is tracked and assessed in the BILD Cloud



**Pauline Epistles:
Strategies for Establishing Churches**

Acts Acts 14:21–28 (NRSV)

²¹ After they had **proclaimed the good news** to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, then on to Iconium and Antioch. ²² **There they strengthened the souls of the disciples and encouraged them to continue in the faith**, saying, “It is through many persecutions that we must enter the kingdom of God.” ²³ And after they had **appointed elders for them in each church**, with prayer and fasting **they entrusted** them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

²⁴ Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. ²⁵ When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. ²⁶ From there they sailed back to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had completed. ²⁷ When they arrived, they **called the church together and related all that God had done with them**, and how he had opened a door of faith for the Gentiles. ²⁸ And they stayed there with the disciples for some time.

Acts 15:36–16:5 (NRSV)

³⁶ After some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Come, **let us return and visit the believers** in every city where **we proclaimed the word of the Lord and see how they are doing.**”

³⁷ Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. ³⁸ But Paul decided not to take with them one who had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not accompanied them in the work. ³⁹ The disagreement became so sharp that they parted company; Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus. ⁴⁰ But Paul chose Silas and set out, the believers commending him to the grace of the Lord. ⁴¹ **He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.**

16 Paul went on also to Derbe and to Lystra, where there was a disciple named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer; but his father was a Greek. ² He was well spoken of by the believers in Lystra and Iconium. ³ Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him; and he took him and had him circumcised because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. ⁴ As they went from town to town, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem. ⁵ **So the churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in numbers daily.**

Colossians 2:6–8 (NRSV)

⁶ As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him,
⁷ **rooted and built up in him and established in the faith**, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ.

Titus 1:5 (NRSV)

⁵ I left you behind in Crete for this reason, so that **you should put in order what remained to be done**, and should appoint elders in every town, as I directed you:

1 Timothy 3:14–16 (NRSV)

¹⁴ I hope to come to you soon, but I am **writing these instructions to you so that**, ¹⁵ if I am delayed, **you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God**, which is **the church of the living God, the pillar and bulwark of the truth**. ¹⁶ Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great:

He was revealed in flesh, vindicated in spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among Gentiles, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.

Paul's Concept of Establishing Churches - Issue #1

1. At first glance Paul's missionary activity could appear haphazard...However, when closely observed, some patterns seem to appear. To what degree did Paul have a clear strategy as he pursued his missionary activity? Describe core elements of that strategy.
2. According to Paul, what qualities would a church possess if it were "established"? What was the nature of the qualities Paul used to evaluate the maturity and strength of a church?
3. What does today's culture consider a strong church? How does Paul's understanding of a mature church differ from what people today consider a solid, mature church?

Paul's Concept of Establishing Churches - Issue #1

...there they **strengthened** the souls of the disciples and encouraged them to continue in the faith.

ἐπιστηρίζω - episterizo

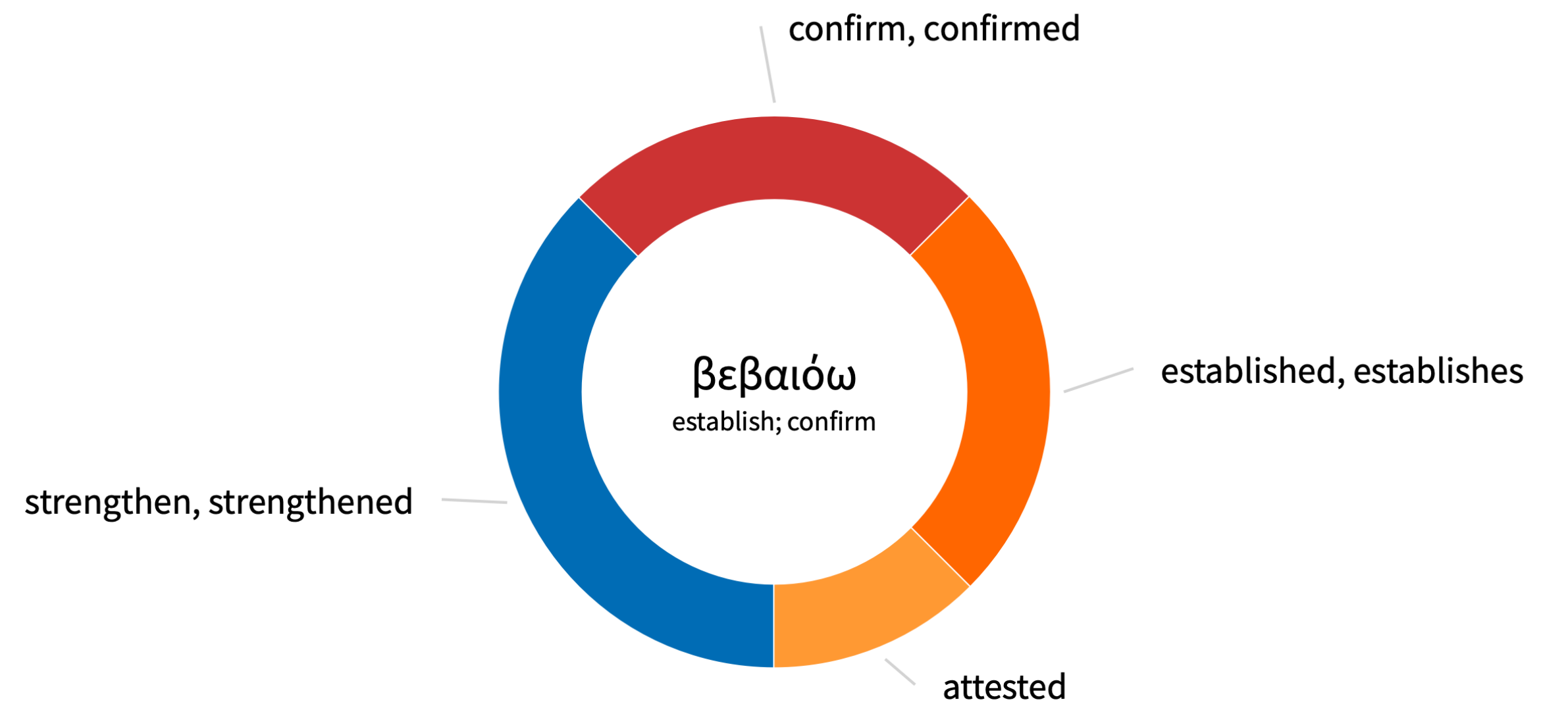
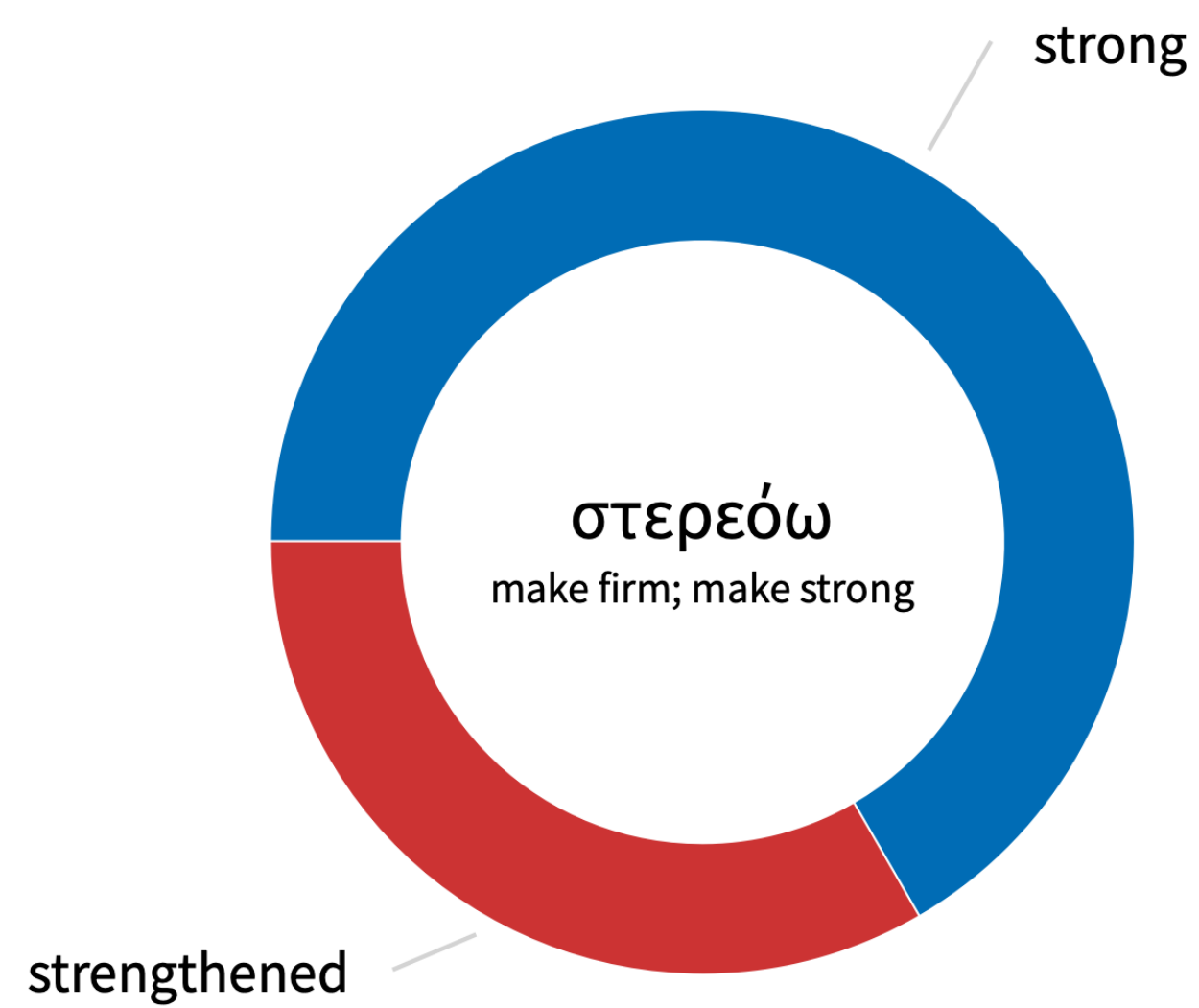
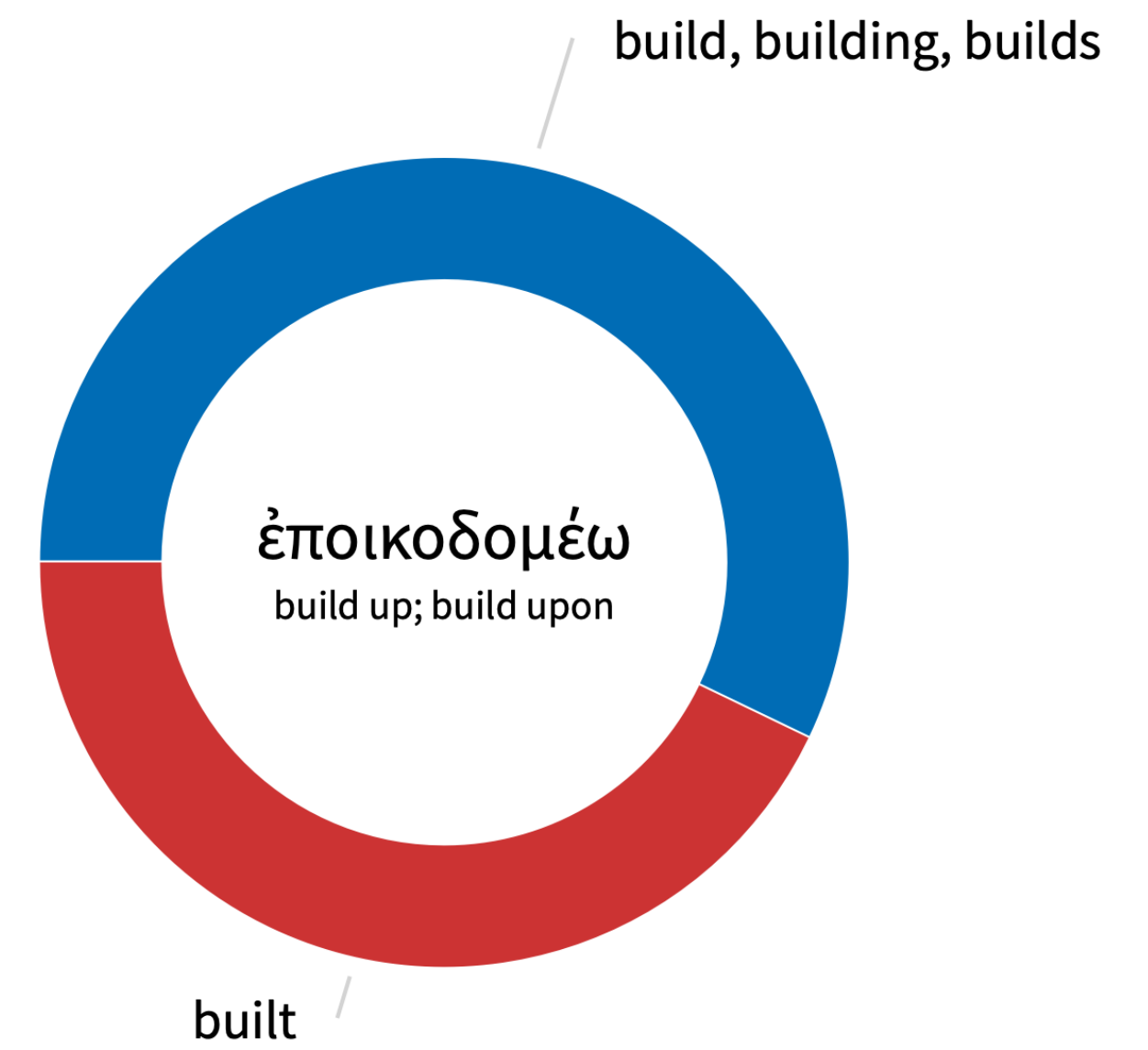
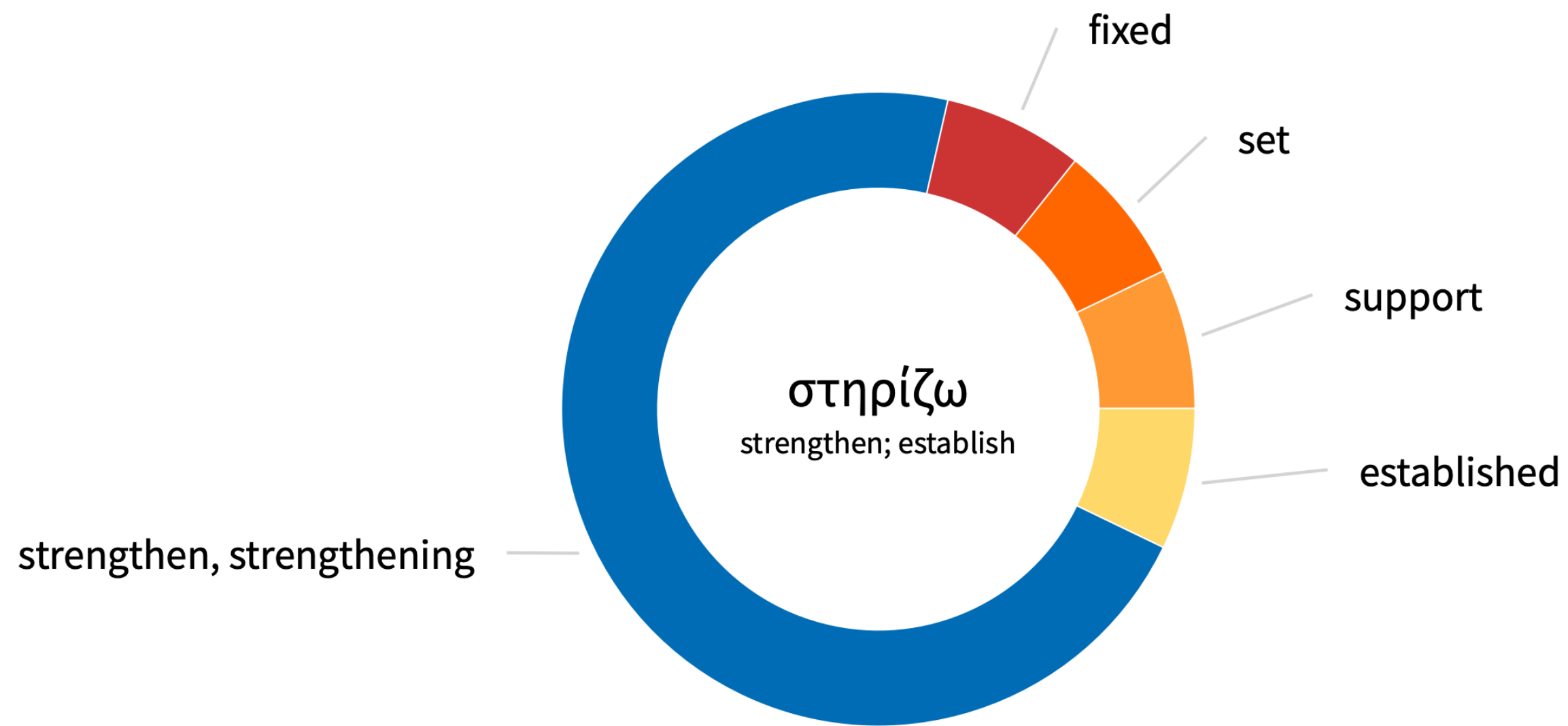
- to confirm, to make more marked by firm determination or resolution
- cause to rest on, to lean on, to be supported, to make more firm - Greek Lexicon

⁷ **rooted and built up in him and established in the faith**, just as you were taught..

rooted - **ρίζω** - **rhizoo** - to be established, conceived of as if a plant being or becoming fixed in the ground - fix firmly, solid

built up - **ἐποικοδομέω** - to come nearer to fullness or completion, conceived of as being constructed further, to strengthen, to make more able

established - **βεβαιόω** - to become settled securely and unconditionally, to treat as valid, secure, to received more inner strength, to be strengthened in one's heart, firm and reliable, to prove to be true, to sustain



Pauline Epistles: Strategies for Establishing Churches

Determined the fundamental biblical principles for growing and strengthening (establishing) a church to maturity and developed a strategy for implementing the biblical forms and functions of a church necessary to make and keep it strong.

Competencies

Student

Certified
Leader

Associate
Faculty

Developed a biblical understanding of Paul's concept of establishing local churches, while discerning the difference between what Paul understood to be normative for all churches in every culture and generation and what he intended to be merely cultural for his time and situation.

Artifacts

 Unit 1 – Issue 1 – Paul's Concept of Establishing Churches.doc



 **Complete**

 Rubric Sample

 Artifact Template



Paul's Concept of Establishing Churches - Issue #1

...others sharing their work..