



# Pressing On

# BILD Network





# CityChurch Network





# Immerse 2018







# North Campus Church



# Beckett Family Night



# What do these pictures represent?

- Spheres of relationship
- Spheres of responsibility
- Spheres of ministry
- Spheres that the enemy will target
- Spheres of opportunity
- Spheres where the Lord can be loved and God's wisdom put on display...if we remain faithful

What will it look like to be faithful, to press on, to persevere in any of these spheres?

What will it look like for not only individuals but for my families, my church, and whole networks to endure?



# A Young Church

## 1 Thessalonians 3:6–10 (NASB95)

<sup>6</sup> But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always think kindly of us, longing to see us just as we also long to see you, <sup>7</sup> for this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we were comforted about you through your faith; <sup>8</sup> for now we *really* live, if you **stand firm** in the Lord. <sup>9</sup> For what thanks can we render to God for you in return for all the joy with which we rejoice before our God on your account, <sup>10</sup> as we night and day keep praying most earnestly that we may see your face, and may **complete what is lacking in your faith?**



## 2 Thessalonians 2:15–17 (NASB95)

<sup>15</sup> So then, brethren, **stand firm** and **hold to the traditions** which you were taught, whether by word *of mouth* or by letter from us. <sup>16</sup> Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace, <sup>17</sup> comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word.



# An Established Church

Philippians 1:27 (NASB95)

<sup>27</sup> Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are **standing firm** in one spirit, with one mind **striving together** for the faith of the gospel;



# Leaders

Titus 1:10,16 – 2:2 (NASB95)

<sup>10</sup> For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers...<sup>16</sup> They profess to know God, but by *their* deeds they deny *Him*, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed. <sup>1</sup> But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine. <sup>2</sup> Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in **perseverance**.

## 1 Timothy 4:15–16 (NASB95)

<sup>15</sup> Take pains with these things; be *absorbed* in them, so that your **progress** will be evident to all. <sup>16</sup> Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; **persevere** in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.



# Discussion

Define the terms – stand firm, persevere. What do they mean?

What choices, attitudes, and resources were needed in order for churches or individuals to persevere?

What does it take for an entire church to hold to the traditions?

What does it take for a church to persevere in mission?

Why do leaders need to persevere? What is at stake?

# The Terms

Define the words

- Stand firm – stand, hold firm, continue in a state
- Persevere – continue in an activity or state



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# Thessalonica

What did a young church need?

- They needed to continue to be taught (1 Thess 3:2,10)
- They needed to be assessed – What is lacking? (1 Thess 3:10)
- They needed perspective on hard stuff (1 Thess 3:3-5)
- They needed to hold to the traditions (2 Thess 2:15)

# Thessalonica

Note that the entire church was to hold to the traditions

- What processes would need to be in place?
- What would potentially disrupt or shake a church's hold on the traditions?
- How would a leader go about assessing what is lacking at a point in time?

## Philippians 1:27 (NASB95)

<sup>27</sup> Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are **standing firm** in one spirit, with one mind **striving together** for the faith of the gospel;



# Philippi

What did a more established church need?

- A sense of community responsibility

“conduct” – to conduct oneself with reference to one’s obligations in relationship to others as part of some community

- A sense of the what the gospel was worth
- A unity around a mission bigger than themselves

## Titus 1:10,16 – 2:2 (NASB95)

<sup>10</sup> For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers...<sup>16</sup> They profess to know God, but by *their* deeds they deny *Him*, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed. <sup>1</sup> But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine. <sup>2</sup> Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in **perseverance**.

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# Timothy and Titus

Critical for perseverance in leaders

- Attention to their character across the span of their lives (live as one who knows God!)
- Attention to personal progress even amidst significant ministry
- Remain diligent in their responsibilities

# ADMCC Leader Cohorts



# Network Fall Ordered Learning

## Ames Hub

- Habits Course, Tues Sept 11, 6-8pm (Randy)
  - Interpreting Course, Tues Sept 11, 8-10pm (Caleb)
  - Acts Course, Tues Sept 11, 6-8pm (TBA)
  - Pauline Course, Wed Sept 12, 11am-12:30pm (Randy)
  - Institutions: The Social Web, every 3 weeks (Randy)
- 
- Life(n), campus, TBA
  - The Story, campus, TBA



# Network Fall Ordered Learning

## Des Moines Hub

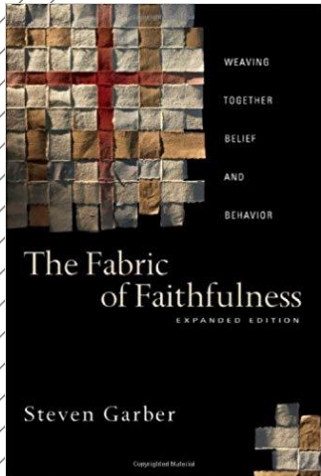
- Pauline Epistles Course, Thurs (TBA)
- Mastering the Scriptures, Thurs (Jon)
- Youth First Principles, Thurs (TBA)

# Immerse 2018





# Young adults who persevered



**“Convictions:** They were taught a worldview which was sufficient for the questions and crises of the next twenty years.”

**“Character:** They met a teach who incarnated the worldview which they were coming to consciously identify as their own, and in and through that relationship they saw that it was possible to reside within that worldview.”

**“Community:** They made choices over the years to live out their worldview in the company of mutually committed folk who provided a network of stimulation and support...”

# Fall Ministry Opportunities

1. Open your home to students – meals, game nights, mentoring, conversation, etc, etc
2. Main Event – Oct 6



# Pray at your tables

For the global network

For the CityChurch network

For the ADMCC

For your home church

For your family