

**Date: December 3, 2017**

**Sermon Title: Standing Firm in the Grace of God**

**Speaker: Dan Yacoviello**

**Scripture text(s): 1 Peter**

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- 1) In what ways have you experienced verbal abuse as a direct result of living a holy life?
  - 2) Read 1 Peter 4:3-4 and 4:14. What is the reason for suffering?
  - 3) How can you endure through the suffering? (1 Peter 2:21-23)
  - 4) Read 1 Peter 4:14. How can persecution be considered a sign of hope?
  - 5) In 1 Peter 1:1-2, Peter refers to believers as “elect exiles”. Why did Dan say that it was important to have a personal understanding of this?
  - 6) How does God’s foreknowledge play a role in our lives? What is the importance of sanctification and how is it accomplished?
  - 7) For what purpose were the “elect exiles” chosen, exiled, and scattered?
  - 8) How does Dan’s explanation on suffering change your perspective on biblical suffering?
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### **Group Prayer Time:**

Have 1 – 2 people in your group pray through each part of the A.C.T.S. prayer acronym.

1. **Adoration** – How is God’s character reflected in this week’s passage? Let that revelation lead you to worship and adore God.
2. **Confess** – The Word of God exposes and uncovers sin. Respond to that conviction by agreeing with what God has said about your sin.
3. **Thanksgiving** – Where do you see God working? Thank God for his faithfulness in your life and the lives of others.
4. **Supplication** – God’s Word helps us understand his purposes and plans. Ask God to give you the desires of his heart as you pray for your needs and the needs of others.

### **Pray for Missions:**

This week in your group prayer time, have someone pray for this missions' effort. Different missions will be highlighted every week.

**International & Local Missions** – Pray for Scott & Wendy Duke with Impact Sports. The mission of Impact Sports is to use sports as a vehicle to take the Gospel to places it's never been, is not allowed, or the delivery of it has previously been ineffective. Their vision is to see people come to know Christ as their personal Savior both locally and around the world, and to see Christians grow in their walk with the Lord by equipping them to share their faith through sports. Pray for them as they take teams to play softball in prisons in SC, NC, and VA. Also pray that their gospel efforts would be effective as they take teams to unreached areas around the world.