

# FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

## Firm Resolve February 18, 2025 Suzi Armstrong

Haggai 1 says to give careful thought to your ways. Literally this means put your heart into the conduct of what you are doing. To be resolute is to be decisive, determined, and unwavering in your faith and in actions. Know what you believe and why. Know why you do what you do. Align your heart to God's heart. Being resolute is a matter of the heart – it is heart determination, not intellectual, although understanding and knowledge can be the underpinnings of being resolute in your heart. To be firmly resolved is not a casual stance or commitment. Isaiah describes firm resolve as setting your face like flint being unmovable in your focus. Put your trust and confidence in the Name of the Lord and rely on God. The Lord says do not anxiously look around you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. I will help you. I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, do not fear; I will help you.

### 1 Corinthians 16.13-14 The Message

<sup>13-14</sup> **Keep your eyes open, hold tight to your convictions, give it all you've got, be resolute, and love without stopping.**

### Philippians 4.6-7 The Message

<sup>6-7</sup> Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. **Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers**, letting God know your concerns. **Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down.** It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.

- Worship breaks the feeling of being separated from God.
- God will never leave you or forsake you.

### 1 Corinthians 10.12b The Message

**...Forget about self-confidence; it's useless. Cultivate God-confidence.**

### 2 Thessalonians 2.15-17 The Message

<sup>15-17</sup> So, friends, **take a firm stand, feet on the ground and head high. Keep a tight grip on what you were taught**, whether in personal conversation or by our letter. May Jesus himself and God our Father, who reached out in love and surprised you with gifts of **unending help and confidence**, put a fresh heart in you, invigorate your work, enliven your speech.

- Being firmly resolved releases the wind of God that pushes you forward, opens doors, sets keys in your hands, builds confidence and strength in your inner man, and filters narratives.

### Daniel 1.7-9 NIV

<sup>7</sup> The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Beltshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego.

<sup>8</sup> But **Daniel resolved not to defile himself** with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. <sup>9</sup> Now **God had caused the official to show favor and compassion to Daniel.**

- Daniel was firmly resolved in his identity, even when his name was changed.
- Daniel was resolute in being who God made him to be.
- Daniel was resolved not to devalue himself. He determined that he was going to follow God no matter what.
- God's favor was on Daniel.

David had confidence to stand against Goliath because David had personal intimate relationship and experience with God.

- **1 Samuel 17.36** NASB  
<sup>36</sup> **Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them,** since he has taunted the armies of the living God.”
- **Proverbs 3.26** NASB  
<sup>26</sup> **For the Lord will be your confidence** and will keep your foot from being caught.
  - Remember Proverbs was written by Solomon, David’s son. This is evidence that confidence continued to be a strong dimension in David’s life, and this was passed on to the next generation.

Confidence is a weapon that destroys the enemy’s plans. *When we are confident and are firmly resolute, our confidence robs the devil of his confidence.* That is why the enemy works so hard to destroy our confidence in God. When we are confident of our God – the enemy is like a grasshopper.

#### **Ezra 4.4** The Message

<sup>4</sup> So these people started beating down the morale of the people of Judah, harassing them as they built. **They even hired propagandists to sap their resolve.**

#### **Ephesians 3.16-17** NASB

<sup>16</sup> that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to **be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,** <sup>17</sup> **so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love**

- Rooted is a picture of resolve.
  - Fixed. Established deeply and firmly.
  - Ingrained. Entrenched.
  - Strongs #4492 – to cause to strike root, to render firm, to fix, to establish, cause a person or thing to be thoroughly grounded.
- When I am rooted and grounded in the love of God my faith and belief in God can grow.
  - With God I can step into what seems impossible because I believe that nothing is impossible for God.
  - I do not conform to circumstances, but circumstances must conform to what I believe.

What you believe is the core of being resolved. Believing is the fertile soil of God encounters. When we believe what God has said about our City, our Nation and our future, this pours blessings upon the land and the people. Believing causes Heaven to invade the earth. What I believe shapes my future. The words that I speak come from the core of what I believe. I choose to believe God; this fills my heart with faith and connects me to the love of God and hope is anchored in my heart.

#### **PRAYER AND DECLARATION:**

##### **Psalm 37.5-8** TPT Reworded

<sup>5</sup> **Detroit, give God the right to direct your life, and rebuild you as His city, and as you trust him along the way, you’ll find he pulled it off perfectly!**

<sup>6</sup> He will appear as your righteousness Detroit, as sure as the dawning of a new day. He will manifest as your justice, as sure and strong as the noonday sun.

<sup>7</sup> Quiet your heart in his presence and pray; **keep hope alive** as you long for God to come through for you. And don’t think for a moment that the wicked in their prosperity are better off than you.

<sup>8</sup> Stay away from anger and revenge. Keep envy far from you, for it only leads you into lies.