



**Series:** Jude

**Passage:** Jude: 1-4; 24-25

**Title:** Contend Earnestly for the Faith (Part 1)

**Speaker:** Pastor David Menard, 2/25/2024

**Discussion Starter** – Why does Jude exhort believers to “contend earnestly for the faith”? What is the threat to the church that Jude is warning against? What is the source of the threat? What similarities do we see in our 21<sup>st</sup> century church?

- 1) Who is Jude? What do we know about him from scripture and other writings? What is significant about how he introduces himself in verse 1?
- 2) To whom does Jude address his letter? What experiences had the early church already faced at the time of this letter?
- 3) What does Jude see as the greatest threat to the church in his day and how did he say it would happen?
  - a) What do you think is the greatest threat to the current church and how do you see it happening?
- 4) What circumstance caused Jude to exhort the believers to contend earnestly for the faith?
- 5) What is “The Faith”, which was “once for all delivered to the saints”. **Read Romans 5:17, 19-20 and Colossians 1:15-18.** How does God’s grace allow us to remain under the Lordship of Jesus Christ?
- 6) What are the 2 characteristic actions of those who crept in to the church? (verse 4)
  - b) **Read Romans 6:1-2, 11-14.** How does the amazing grace of God that we have received enable you to walk in submission to Jesus’ Lordship?
- 7) **Read Hebrews 13:7-9.** What does this verse teach us about Jesus’ immutability and the establishment of our faith? How do you see this being attacked and undermined in the church today?
- 8) How do you think that certain men were able to creep in without notice? Who is responsible for identifying these “creepers”? Why might it be hard for us to identify them?
- 9) What is the definition you would give for apostasy in the church? How do you think it comes about? What is the potential impact to members of churches that have fallen into apostasy?
- 10) How are we “to earnestly contend for the faith”?
  - c) What steps can you take to be better prepare yourself to earnestly contend for the faith?
  - d) Ephesians 4, encourages us to live in unity and to build one another up in the faith, so that we should no longer be like children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting. **Who can you identify to regularly come alongside and build up in God’s Word?**