

## “Keep On”

C.R. 10-14-18

**Text:** 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

**Intro:** As I talk to Pastors, and church leaders I have been hearing a common theme. Frustration, fatigue, weariness, and concern. We are losing 1500 pastors a month, and statistics tell us that only 10% of the church leaders will retire from that position. As I walk in and out of the church from Sunday to Sunday I certainly notice those of you that week after week are getting the job done. Jesus said that the fields are ready to for harvest, but the laborers will be few. Every Pastor that I have talked with have told me that they face the same challenges, 10-20% are doing all the work.

I believe that in this room there is a number of people who daily face this dark world with the heart of a champion. You want to do it right. You long to have Jesus be proud of you. You are reading your Bible, praying, witnessing, giving, loving, and walking the walk. You are doing your best to raise your kids God’s way, but you think that you are failing. You wonder if you can keep doing it because the battle is fierce, and you are tired. The message today is Keep On. Let’s look at a few things we can do to keep on, keeping on.

### 1) Keep Your Eyes Open

- a. Over and over we are told in scripture.
- b. Jesus said to “Watch and Pray”.
- c. The idea here is to stay alert and be on guard.
- d. We must realize that it is very dangerous to get lazy and comfortable.
- e. The enemy will wait on you to take a nap.
- f. He will watch your life and wait on you to look away from God and then he will launch his attack.
- g. **Eph 5:15** See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,
- h. **1Pe 4:7** But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.
- i. **Rom 13:11** And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.
- j. Remember we are looking for the return.

### 2) Hold Fast to the Faith

- a. Stand Firm in your faith.
- b. You know what you believe. Stand on it.
- c. This means “believing in the core doctrines of Christianity.
- d. Make the Gospel a core value. Jesus is the only way. He is King. He is Lord. There is none Holy like our God.
- e. We have nothing to apologize for. We have the truth.

- f. We must root ourselves in scripture, and we must train our children in it as well.
- g. It is the gospel that changes lives. It is the word of God that sets men free.

### 3) Be Unwavering

- a. I want to encourage you this morning to keep doing it no matter what the world is saying.
- b. Keep on for Christ no matter how unpopular you may be at work.
- c. This phrase literally says act like a man, act manly.
- d. Let your yes be yes and your no be no.
- e. **Illustrate:** Ask your daddy? No, because I already know what he is going to say.
- f. Let's live like that. Let's live in such a way that people already know what our answer is going to be.
- g. Keep on standing for the unborn child, the orphan, the widow. Let's keep standing up for the Word of God, and the inerrancy of scripture. Let's keep singing, teaching, and preaching that the blood of Jesus is the only way.
- h. I can't stand the word Moderate. I don't want lukewarm water, or food. Be hot or be cold. But for goodness sake be something.
- i. You may not agree with me, but at least you know where I stand.

### 4) Love Without Stopping (v.14)

- a. You can't stop loving people.
- b. We can disagree in love.
- c. Keep on loving the hard to love.
- d. Amp. "Let everything you do be done in love (true love to God and man as inspired by God's love for us).

Read Illustration Semper Fi See attached.