

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

02/02/15 - Stay the Course

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1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Twelve teenage girls and the ship's captain head out for a weeklong educational cruise to Catalina Island, located twenty-six miles off the coast of Southern California. They were not expecting to experience the strong winds that pushed against the bow of the 48-foot sloop carrying them to their destination. Novice sailors at best, their training as Sea Scouts was quickly put to the test as they tried to obey the orders of the captain: "Hold the line tight", "Stay the course!" They safely navigated through the storm and on to their island destination.

The Christians in the Thessalonian church had their hope set on knowing Jesus Christ and sharing Him with others. However, there were storms to weather along the way. Paul faithfully acknowledges their hope inspired endurance?hope that endures the present storm as well as the unknown future.

We all experience sudden storms in our lives. Some storms come up quickly; others are a constant wind that pushes against our intended direction. In spite of this, the Captain's orders are the same: "Stay the course!"

Author: Cindy Lowcock