



# St. James United Methodist Church



**DON'T!**

**FOLD**



# **St. James United Methodist Church**



**Pastor**

**Evangelist**

**Teacher**

**Visionary**

**Sermon Title:**

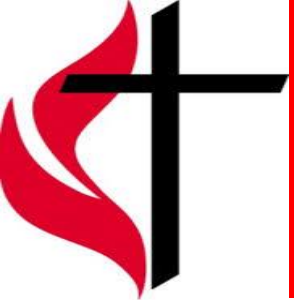
**“Hold and Don’t Fold”**

**Hebrews 10:35-39 (NLT)**



## **Hebrews: 10:35-39 (NLT)**

**So do not throw away this  
confident trust in the Lord.  
Remember the great reward  
it brings you! Patient  
endurance is what you need**



**now, so that you will  
continue to do God's will,  
then you will receive all that  
he has promised. "For I just a  
little while, the Coming One**



**will come and not delay. And  
my righteous ones will live  
by faith. But take no  
pleasure in anyone who  
turns away. But we are not**



**like those who turn away  
from God to their own  
destruction. We are the  
faithful ones, whose souls  
will be saved.**



# **King James Version: verse 39**

**But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.**



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**“Hold and Don’t Fold”**

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# Commentary

**It's a great day in the kingdom! I'm not a card player, but I have on several occasions, viewed individuals playing the**



**game of poker. As I was able to see the hand of those engaged in the game, there were times that the one with the best hand folded under**



**pressure. The strategy of the player is to bluff the other player to fold with the superior hand. I can't tell you how many times some**



**folded under pressure.**

**The text reminds us that we  
have been given  
hope/confident trust in the  
Lord. We are to stand in face**



**of the world's bluff! Often what we see and feel can trip us up if we are not reminded that our hope in God can be the bedrock of our faith. We are not to draw back because of**



**the pressures of life. Why?  
Because God is in control of  
every play in spite of what's  
in others hand. God is  
looking for people who will**



**stay in the game with the hand he has been dealt to them. Let me explain; You've heard the phrase, "Keep Hope Alive". Hope sees the**



**potential and faith carries us through. As long as you have hope, see the possibilities, you can stand in faith. Without learning**





**confident trust in God, there is always the possibility of folding under pressure. So my friend, don't throw away your good hand because**



**they are bluffing! The world doesn't have the answers, many talk show are seeking popularity and ratings, drama are used to subvert**



**and influence your mind,  
beauty products are making  
erroneous claims that they  
cannot deliver. We must not  
fold under pressure.**



**God has dealt us a hand in  
the matter and we stand  
knowing that He who  
promises is faithful if we  
“hold” Know when to hold**



**and not fold! Something  
good is about to happen.  
Just don't fold.**

**Dr. Janice Gilbert, Senior Pastor  
St. James UMC-Beaumont-2015**



# Life Application Statement

**It's time to hold fast our  
confession of faith and not  
fold under pressure.**



**PRESSURE**



# Life Application Principles

**1. Worldly and wicked pressure comes to arrest hope in our lives.**





# Life Application Principles

**2. Hope in God establishes our faith and causes us to see from a different perspective.**







# Life Application Principles

**3. The greatest attack comes before the victory.**





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