

TAKE A STAND: 1st Meeting

February 26th, 2012

Talk by Paschal Uche: “Standing Firm in the Faith”

Why did they pick me to greet Pope Benedict?

I said “YES” when offered opportunities – this led to greater opportunities.

Hearts, minds, parishes work, when we are OPEN.

WYD:

- The Church is Universal
- Reality of being in the Church is a beautiful thing
- There was a connection around the whole world
- Joy filled the air & we thought, “This is the whole world, as it should be”
- This isn’t our daily reality though – you can’t just go around the streets swapping rosaries etc.
- We should come out from WYD with the realisation that **we are the Salt of the Earth & the Light of the Earth**

Standing Firm in the Faith:

- **We miss opportunities to share**, by hiding under phrases such as “it’s a faith thing” when asked what we’ve been involved with
- Why are we Christians? What’s the point? God is not a means to an end – it’s not all about us!
- Standing firm is **not about us**, it’s about the God who loves us
- Faith is not about rules, but about Jesus
- **To stand firm is to give EVERYTHING**, God wants everything – but why would we do that?
- To stand firm should not be based on the fact that we “want to be good” or because we have a desire, but should be **a response to the overwhelming love that God has for us**. The more we ponder on this, the more we can respond.

- As it says in the Black Eyed Peas song, “We can go hard or we can go home”!
- **What is it that we’re going to take a stand for that’s worth dying for?**
- There’s a difference between knowing *about* something and *knowing* something.
- **We are God’s Plan A, He has No Plan B!**
- Prayer is how we get there...