

Finding Our Strength in Him

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 16:13
Ephesians 6:10
2 Timothy 2:1

1 Corinthians 16:13 (NKJV) Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.

Ephesians 6:10 (NKJV) Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

2 Timothy 2:1 (NKJV) You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

Introduction

Here are three commandments to "be strong". But how do we do this? Here are some suggestions.

I. Three commandments regarding strength

1 Chronicles 16:11 (NKJV) Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore!

A. Be strong in faith

1 Corinthians 16:13 (NKJV) Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.

B. Be strong in the Lord's power

Ephesians 6:10 (NKJV) Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

C. Be strong in grace

2 Timothy 2:1 (NKJV) You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

II. Learning where our strength resides

Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV) But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

A. His strength comes when we reach our limit

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (NKJV) And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, **for My strength is made perfect in weakness.**" Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. **For when I am weak, then I am strong.**

B. His strength comes through the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8 (NKJV) "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

John 14:26 (NKJV) "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you..

C. His strength comes when we draw near him
Acts 17:28 (NKJV) "for in Him we live and move and have our being

III. Finding our strength in Him

A. To be strong in faith

1. Let the gift of faith come upon you

1 Corinthians 12:9 (NKJV) to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,

2. "Step out of the boat"

a. Put your faith to the test

b. Exercise your faith

c. Remember what He has done for you in the past

B. To be strong in His power

1. Stand close to Him

2 Timothy 4:16-17 (NKJV) At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them. 17 **But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me**, so that the message might be preached fully through me, and that all the Gentiles might hear. And I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

2. Allow Him to send reinforcements

Luke 22:43 (NKJV) Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him.

Hebrews 1:13-14 (NKJV) But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? 14 **Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?**

3. Rely on the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8 (NKJV) "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you

C. To be strong in grace

1. Go immediately to Him

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

2. Listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit

Matthew 10:19-20 (NKJV) "But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; 20 **for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.**

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B. Be strong in the Lord's power

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Isaiah 40:31

A. His strength comes when we reach our limit

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

B. His strength comes through the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8; John 14:26; Acts 17:28

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A. To be strong in faith

1. Let the gift of faith come upon you

1 Corinthians 12:9

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Luke 22:43; Hebrews 1:13-14

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Acts 1:8

C. To be strong in grace

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Matthew 10:19-20