



EPISODE GUIDE

PODCAST #478: "STRONG" BY ANNE WILSON

Bible

Read 2 Corinthians 12 in context. The best course of action is to read the entire letter. To get your bearings, watch an [overview video](#).

Interact

Dive deeper into verses 9-10 of 2 Corinthians by completing keyword word studies. I chose power, perfect, weakness, weak, and strong. But there are additional important words to explore.

Tool

Follow the cross-reference to the story of Gideon in Judges 6-8. How does Gideon's story support or clarify what you've studied about Christ's power and our weakness and the relationship between the two?

Exercise

Meditate on, and journal your answer to, this question: Because Christ's supernatural influence over reality is accomplished in our frailty, why do we pray for strength to survive life's difficulties? Does asking for strength take us out of God's will for us to be weak?

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BONUS STUDY

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HERE ARE SOME FURTHER THOUGHTS AND POINTS TO STUDY

I thought about my friend's question, "Does asking for strength take us out of God's will for us to be weak?" This led me to seek if there were any examples of prayers for strength in the Bible.

In fact, a plea in Psalm 119 reads, "My soul melts away for sorrow; **strengthen me according to your word!**"

So, what does the Word of God indicate about God's pattern of strengthening us?

These are the verses I've been meditating on. You do the same, and let's talk about it (@michellenezat on social media or via email michelle@michellenezat.com).

- Psalm 68:35 "Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—he is the one who gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!"
- Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."
- Jeremiah 32:17 "Ah, Lord God! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you."
- Psalm 59:16 "But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress."
- Psalm 28:7 "The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him."
- Nehemiah 8:10 "Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.""
- Isaiah 41:10 "fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."
- Exodus 15:2 "The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him."
- Isaiah 40:29 "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength."
- Ephesians 6:10 "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might."

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