



SERMON SERIES: **“Wisdom & Divine Direction”**

Sermon Connection Handout: **“Strength 2.0”** – 2/3/2019

Isaiah 40:29 – 31 (NKJV) – *“²⁹He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might **He increases strength.** ³⁰Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, ³¹But 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.”*

Philippians 4:13 (NKJV) – *“I can do all things through Christ who **strengthens me.**”*

Ephesians 6:10 (AMPC) – *“In conclusion, be strong in the Lord [be empowered through your union with Him]; **draw your strength from Him** [that strength which His boundless might provides].”*

1 Corinthians 15: 10 (TPT) – *“But God’s amazing grace has made me who I am! And his grace to me was not fruitless. In fact, I worked harder than all the rest, yet not in my own strength but God’s, for **His empowering grace** is poured out upon me.”*

- I believe that Lord wants us to commit and continue in the word of WISDOM and DIVINE DIRECTION from last week for our lives this year: that word is... _____. Let’s re-examine again the Scripture again about Jesus and how He grew strong.
- **Luke 2:40, 52 (NKJV)** – *“⁴⁰And the Child grew and **became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom;** and the grace of God was upon Him. ⁵²And **Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.**”*
- Last week I stated that I believe without spiritual _____ you won’t be able to two things you need to be able to do well:
 - (1st) Without _____ your faith won’t be able to _____ from God.
 - **Hebrews 11:11 (NKJV); 2 Corinthians 12:9 (NKJV)**
 - (2nd) Without _____ your faith won’t be able to _____ the devil.
 - **Nehemiah 8:10; James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8 – 9 (NKJV)**
- The _____ we are mentioned through the Scriptures here is NOT natural, physical strength NOR is mental acuity or academic prowess. The _____ is SPIRITUAL _____! It is God’s Empowering STRENGTHENING Grace!

ARE YOU A WEARY WARRIOR?

- We are told as well to not grow _____ of doing good:
 - **Galatians 6:9 (NKJV)** – *“And **let us not grow weary while doing good,** for in due season we shall reap if we do not lost heart.”*
 - **2 Thessalonians 3:13 (NKJV)** – *“But as for you, brethren, **do not grow weary in doing good.**”*
- This is a _____ not a suggestion – it is DIVINE DIRECTION from God’s Word.
- **WE ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO GET TIRED, SPIRITUALLY FATIGUED, SPIRITUALLY DEHYDRATED, EXHAUSTED, WEARY AND FAINT SPIRITUALLY!**
- **Read 1 Kings 19:4 – 14 (KJV)** I believe Elijah did not really want to die; he was just acting like many weary Christian warriors - despondent and in need of rest and sustenance. Of all the giants Elijah faced, perhaps none so devastated him as the giant of _____. We see Elijah fleeing to the desert where he collapsed in utter exhaustion and discouragement and ask die. From his _____ perspective, it seemed as though he had won a battle but was losing the war.
- Like us today, when we start to _____ and grow _____, we lose focus and clarity of three things:
 - (1) Our God-given PURPOSE; (2) Our Heavenly PERSPECTIVES; (3) Our Lord’s _____ POWER
 - Friends, there are three things we must receive DAILY SPIRITUAL _____ to avoid: (#1) **BITTERNESS** (#2) **BURNOUT** and (#3) **BOREDOM**
- Like we said last week, too often we look just for a new “Diet Plan” or a new “Workout Plan”; when we really need a **renewed** “Prayer Plan”. We need to live with FULL STRENGTH!
 - The _____ and _____ I save today, I have it for tomorrow.
 - We’ve got to use wisdom to think and behave more _____ efficiently!

- We've got to be WISE and understanding our THERMOSTATIC NATURE. That means as leaders of our homes/families, our jobs, our responsibilities in life our _____ sets the tone for those following our leading. If we walk out and serve with _____, or we are _____ and / or _____ and COMPLANCY is fixed on our heart and mind – that will transfer and set the tone for those around us. Remember, leadership is transfer of belief! In other words, people will believe it is okay to **BE** bitter, to **BE** burnout and lead and serve God on _____, and it's okay to constant squander and wander around BORED and _____ – where you judge and criticize *everything* and *everyone* from the sidelines of _____ because "I'm bored". ***In Christ is never boring!***
- What is **Our BURN RATE**: How quickly do you burn when life is _____ and when life _____? **Our BOUNCE BACK Factor**. How quickly do you **rebound** and **reengage** when you experience a _____ or a _____? In other words, when you get "HIT" or get "HURT" how long does it take you to BOUNCE BACK and GET BACK to DOING the WILL of GOD and the WORK of GOD on-time, in-time and at **FULL** _____ and _____?
- Let's talk a little more about _____ for a minute. _____, compassion fatigue, loss of passion – call it what you will, but it's deadly to Christian's life and ministry effectiveness. Truth is _____ is battle fatigue – like Elijah experienced. The first thing that occurs in prolonged battle or _____ is the loss of making **wise and good decisions**.
- _____ uses alarm chemicals (adrenalin and cortisol – amphetamines) in the brain. In "Fight Mode" we don't do much _____. We are to obey our Commander Jesus. Blood flow goes to the physical action areas of the brain (motor cortex) and leaves the **DECISION-MAKING** area (cerebral cortex).
- I believe Jesus our Lord's life holds some keys to a healthy, burnout-proof. lifestyle. **4 Keys From the Life of the Master**:
 - **Key #1** – _____. Jesus was driven by a singular focus. He didn't do all of the "Add-ons" and "Extras" to stretch Himself thin and out of what He was graced and empowered by God to do.
 - **Key #2** – _____. **Mark 6:31 – 32 (NKJV); Matthew 14:13, 23 (NKJV)**
 - **Key #3** – _____.
 - **Key #4** – _____.
 - **A MINISTRY LIFE DRIVEN BY PURPOSE, REFRESHED BY HEALTHY RHYTHMS OF REST, ENRICHED BY RELATIONSHIPS, AND LIGHTENED BY DELEGATION WILL NEVER BURN OUT!**

FURTHER UNDERSTANDING OF THE DYNAMICS OF LIFE AND MINISTRY

- **God gives you the _____ and _____ you need for today, but also and for life. He expects you to be a _____ of the ENERGY to use it wisely.**
 - The lack of _____ on the front end causes us to lose _____ on the back end. If you don't use _____ on the front end of this year, you lack of _____ on the back end of this year will have this testimony – I'm _____.
 - **Friends, even people with HIGH ENERGY can have that ENERGY sucked right out of them under difficult circumstances. THE ABC's of ENERGY DRAIN:**
 - **A** = Activity Without Direction – doing things that don't seem to matter
 - **B** = Burden Without Action – not being able to do things that really matter
 - **C** = Conflict Without Resolution – not being able to deal with what's the matter
- **2nd – God gives you enough _____ and _____ to accomplish His purpose and plans in the timeframe His gives you.**
