

**FROM MEDIOCRE TO  
MASSIVE: BECOMING  
A POWERHOUSE FOR  
GOD**

**1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27**  
**2 CORINTHIANS 12:7-10**  
**ROMANS 5:1-6**  
**HEBREWS 10:19-25**





What Does a  
Strong Person  
Look Like?



# Was Joshua Strong?

- ◆ Militarily there is no question. He led the army into battle all throughout the wilderness wanderings.
- ◆ Spiritually maybe not at first.
  - ◆ Caleb is the one who stands up 1st after spying out the land (Num. 13:30). Joshua is not mentioned until Numbers 14:6-9.
    - ◆ Maybe Caleb just beat him to the punch.
    - ◆ Maybe Joshua deferred to Caleb because of age.
    - ◆ Maybe he was moved by what Caleb said.

# "Be Strong & Courageous"

- ◆ Moses to Joshua: 2-3 times in 18 verses. Verse 23 could have been YaHWeH's commanded statement (Deuteronomy 31:6, 7, 23).
- ◆ YaHWeH to Joshua: 3 times in 4 verses (Joshua 1:6, 7, 9)
- ◆ The Reubenites, Gadites, and half tribe of Manasseh to Joshua (Joshua 1:17-18)
- ◆ Joshua to the chief men of war (Joshua 10:25)

# What Changed?

- ◆ Joshua's focus: "Who me?" -----> "YaHWeH picked me!"
- ◆ Joshua realized YaHWeH would be with him.
- ◆ The Reubenites, Gadites, and half tribe of Manasseh may have instilled some confidence in him.

**Whatever the reason for the change, YaHWeH used Joshua to accomplish His will in amazing ways!**

# Am I Strong?

- ◆ Some would say they were strong physically, but fewer would say they were strong spiritually.
  - ◆ Partly out of humility
  - ◆ Partly out of fear of expectations -----> Too much importance given to our abilities
  - ◆ Partly out of rebellion and complacency -----> "Here am I, send him!"

# How Do We Develop Spiritual Strength?

- ◆ Growth Requires Discipline
- ◆ Weaknesses Can't Stop God
- ◆ Gaining Strength **HURTS!**
- ◆ Growth Requires Help

Open Your Bibles to  
1 Corinthians 9:24-27



# Growth Requires Discipline

- ◆ It's monotonous and frustrating sometimes.
- ◆ It requires self-control starting with a firm decision to be better than we currently are.
- ◆ It requires us to keep our "eye on the prize."
- ◆ Results are not immediately visible to us.

## Book Recommendations

1. Foster, Richard. Celebration of Discipline.
2. Ortberg, John. The Life You've Always Wanted.

Turn in Your Bibles to  
2 Corinthians 12:7-10

# Weaknesses Can't Stop God!

- ◆ Fear is natural but should not cripple us.
- ◆ God has a plan to use us for His glory.
- ◆ His servants -----> HIS Timing, HIS Way
- ◆ It's about Him...NOT us!
- ◆ He is well aware of our weaknesses. Through Him, they are strength.

Turn in Your Bibles  
to Romans 5:1-6

# Gaining Strength HURTS!

- ◆ Exult in Hope of God's glory: Tribulations-> Perseverance-> Character-> Hope
- ◆ Being humbled is embarrassing and painful.
- ◆ Failure is discouraging and irritating.
- ◆ Patience is not most people's strong suit.
- ◆ Sometimes growing spiritually requires a "baptism by fire."

Turn in Your Bibles  
to Hebrews 10:19-25

# Growth Requires Help

- ◆ Holding on to the confession of faith is necessary for the right focus.
- ◆ As God's Family our job is to spur each other on to greater spiritual heights.
- ◆ Iron sharpening iron becomes more important every day because the Lord's return is getting closer (Proverbs 27:17).
- ◆ Satan wants us weak. This cannot be allowed.



Rock Springs church of Christ  
grow in respect to salvation.