## **Strength Prayer**

I love strength. I love the word "mighty," as in "mighty woman of God" and "mighty man of God."

I love to hear that Moses "was mighty in his words and deeds" (Acts 7:22),

and that Apollos was "mighty in the Scriptures" (Acts 18:24 NASB).

I love it when Paul says, "Act like men, be strong" (1 Corinthians 16:13),

## I love it when the scriptures say:

"Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might" (Ephesians 6:10),

or, "Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 2:1 NASB]

But make no mistake, the pursuit of this might is not the path to human power and pride.

It is the path of ceaseless warfare with your own self.

The greatest power in the world among human beings is the power not to sin.

The power of holiness and love.

- 1. Lord, make me so mighty in wisdom that I know and taste that the height of might is childlikeness (Matthew 18:4).
- 2. Lord, make me so mighty in war that I defeat every impulse in my soul that destroys peace (Hebrews 12:14; Romans 14:19; Matthew 5:9).
- 3. Lord, make me so mighty in my hardness against bitterness that tenderness of heart is not destroyed by wounds (Hosea 11:8; Ephesians 4:32; 1 Peter 3:8).
- 4. Lord, make me mightily unbending and inflexible in my Christ-exalting resolve to bend and become all things to all people that I might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22).

- 5. Lord, make my trunk and branches so mightily tough and impervious to wind and drought that I never cease to bear the fruit of gentleness (Galatians 5:23; James 3:17; 1 Peter 3:4).
- 6. Lord, make me so mighty in serpentine discernment that I see every opening for dove-like love (Matthew 10:16).
- 7. Lord, make me so mightily unmoved by the sting and deceits of injustice against me that I may feel and show the miracle of undeserved compassion (Luke 10:33; 15:20; Hebrews 10:34; 1 Peter 3:8).
- 8. Lord, make me so mightily unyielding to the enticements of selfishness that from my heart kindness forever flows (2 Corinthians 6:6; Galatians 5:22; Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:12).
- 9. Lord, make me so mightily unresponsive to the honeyed lure of self-pity that I may have ever-replenished resources to return good for evil (Romans 12:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:15; 1 Peter 3:9).
- 10. Lord, make me mighty with ruthless courage to cut off my hand at every trace of greed that I may be content with what I have (Philippians 4:11; 1 Timothy 6:8; Hebrews 13:5).
- 11. Lord, make me mighty with happy thoughts of child and wife and King to tear out my eye lest I betray their trust and lose the purity that sees my God (Matthew 5:8, 29).
- 12. Lord, make me so mighty against the powers of self-justification that I never lose the humility to repent and weep for my sin (James 4:9; 5:16).
- 13. Lord, make me so mighty in resisting the bait of frenzied productivity that I never cease to enjoy the still waters of prayer and your sweet presence (Psalm 23:2; Isaiah 46:10; Luke 10:42).
- 14. Lord, make me so mighty against the deadly undertow of self-reliance that I am never ashamed to trust your arm, like a child with his father, in every breaking wave (Psalm 37:3, 5; Proverbs 3:5; Galatians 2:20).

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15. Lord, make me so mighty in seeing and mighty in savoring the promises of your sovereign grace that in all my sorrows I might never cease to sing your praise

(Matthew 5:11-12; Acts 16:25; 2 Corinthians 6:10; 1 Peter 4:13).