



Let's Go Higher **DEVOTIONALS**

SERMON: "STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS PT. 1"

PASTOR TYRONE KING

Day 1: Called in Your Hiding Place

Devotional: Have you ever felt like you were hiding from life's challenges? In Judges 6, we find Gideon threshing wheat in a winepress—essentially hiding from the Midianites who were oppressing Israel. He wasn't in a position of power or influence. He wasn't displaying courage or leadership. He was simply trying to survive. Yet it was in this humble, fearful moment that God appeared and addressed him as a "mighty warrior." What an unexpected greeting! God didn't see Gideon as he was—fearful and hiding—but as who he would become through God's power. This is how God works. He finds us in our winepresses—those places where we feel small, inadequate, and afraid. He meets us not when we have it all together, but precisely when we don't. Your current circumstances, your fears, your inadequacies don't disqualify you from God's calling. In fact, they might be the very setting where God chooses to meet you. Today, consider that God may be calling you right where you are—not after you've figured everything out or overcome all your weaknesses. He sees potential in you that you cannot yet see in yourself. And His presence with you is all you need to fulfill that potential.

Bible Verse: "The angel of the LORD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, 'The LORD is with you, mighty warrior.'" - Judges 6:11-12

Reflection Question: Where is your "winepress"—the place where you feel inadequate or afraid—and how might God be meeting you there with a greater purpose than you can see?

Prayer: Lord, thank You for meeting me exactly where I am. Help me to recognize Your presence in my moments of weakness and fear. Give me the courage to believe that You see more in me than I see in myself. I surrender my inadequacies to You and ask that You use them for Your glory. Amen.



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Day 2:

Seeing Beyond Your Current Self

Devotional: When God approached Gideon, there was a striking disconnect between how Gideon saw himself and how God addressed him. Gideon identified as the least in his family, from the weakest clan. Yet God called him a "mighty warrior." This wasn't a mistake or flattery—it was divine perspective. God wasn't describing Gideon's present reality but declaring his future identity. Before Gideon had accomplished anything noteworthy, God spoke his identity into existence. The same is true for us. God doesn't wait until we've achieved greatness to give us value. He declares our worth and potential long before we recognize it ourselves. He speaks our identity before He speaks our assignment. Perhaps today you feel broken, inadequate, or unworthy. You might be focusing on your failures or limitations. But God sees beyond all that. He sees the healer, the leader, the reconciler, the builder that you can become through His power working in you. Remember that throughout Scripture, God consistently used broken, flawed people to accomplish extraordinary things. Your brokenness isn't a barrier to God's calling—it might be the very qualification He's looking for. When we acknowledge our weakness, we create space for His strength to be displayed.

Bible Verse: "'Pardon me, my lord,' Gideon replied, 'but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family.' The LORD answered, 'I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites, leaving none alive.'" - Judges 6:15-16

Reflection Question

What identity might God be speaking over you that differs from how you currently see yourself, and what would change if you embraced that identity?

Quote God speaks your identity before he speaks your assignment.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for seeing me not just as I am, but as who I can become through Your power. Help me to embrace the identity You have spoken over me rather than clinging to my self-imposed limitations. I surrender my self-perception to You and ask that You transform me according to Your vision. Amen.



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Day 3: Qualified by the Call

Devotional: One of the most liberating truths in Scripture is that God doesn't select people based on their impressive resumes or natural abilities. When He chose Gideon, He didn't consider his leadership experience, military training, or confidence level—all of which were lacking. Instead, God chose Gideon according to His divine purpose. This pattern repeats throughout the Bible. Moses was a stuttering fugitive. David was an overlooked shepherd boy. The disciples were ordinary fishermen and tax collectors. Paul described himself as the chief of sinners. Yet God used each of them powerfully. When we feel inadequate for what God is calling us to do, we're in good company. The truth is, we are inadequate—and that's precisely the point. God's power is made perfect in our weakness. He doesn't call us because we're qualified; He qualifies us as we respond to His call. This doesn't mean the journey will be easy. Gideon still had to overcome his fear and step out in faith. But it does mean that our success doesn't depend on our own abilities. It depends on God's presence with us and His power working through us. Today, instead of focusing on your inadequacies, focus on God's sufficiency. The calling may be too big for you, but it's not too big for God working through you.

Bible Verse: "But I have been the LORD your God ever since you came out of Egypt. You shall acknowledge no God but me, no Savior except me." - Judges 6:10

Reflection Question: What calling or opportunity might you be hesitating to embrace because you feel unqualified, and how would your approach change if you trusted God to qualify you?

Quote: God doesn't call the qualified. He qualifies the call.

Prayer: God, I confess that I often feel inadequate for what You're calling me to do. Thank You for the reminder that You don't call the qualified but qualify the called. Help me to step out in faith, trusting not in my own abilities but in Your power working through me. Use my weaknesses to display Your strength. Amen.



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Day 4: Embracing Divine Acceptance

Devotional: One of the greatest barriers to answering God's call is the belief that we need to fix ourselves before God can use us. We think we need to overcome all our flaws, break free from all our bad habits, and achieve some level of spiritual maturity before we're ready for God's service. But the story of Gideon teaches us otherwise. God came to Gideon while he was hiding in fear. He didn't tell Gideon to get his act together first and then come back. He met Gideon exactly where he was and began working with him from that point. This reveals a beautiful truth about God's character: He accepts us as we are, but loves us too much to leave us that way. His acceptance isn't based on our perfection but on His grace. And His transformation doesn't happen before we come to Him—it happens as we walk with Him. God's work in our lives is progressive. He doesn't demand that we have everything figured out before He can use us. He simply asks for our availability and willingness to follow His lead. As we step out in obedience, He works in us what needs to be worked in, and works out of us what needs to be worked out. Today, don't let your imperfections keep you from responding to God's call. He knows exactly who you are—and He's calling you anyway.

Bible Verse: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." - Jeremiah 1:5

Reflection Question: What imperfections or struggles have you been waiting to overcome before fully surrendering to God's purpose for your life, and how might God want to work through those very areas?

Quote: God loves you enough to accept you the way that you are. He loves you enough to accept you just the way you are in your jacked up life and your jacked up self. But he loves you more than that. He loves you more than that. That he won't leave you that way.

Prayer: Father, thank You for accepting me just as I am. Forgive me for thinking I needed to fix myself before coming to You. I surrender all my brokenness and imperfection to You, trusting that You will transform me as I walk with You. Help me to respond to Your call with simple obedience, knowing that Your power is made perfect in my weakness. Amen.



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Day 5: Availability Plus Presence Equals Victory

Devotional: As we conclude our journey through Gideon's story, we arrive at a simple but profound equation for success in God's kingdom: availability plus God's presence equals victory. Gideon didn't defeat the Midianites because of his military genius or personal courage. In fact, God deliberately reduced his army from 32,000 to just 300 men to ensure that Israel couldn't claim the victory as their own achievement. The victory came because Gideon made himself available to God's call, and God's presence went with him. This principle applies to every challenge we face. The problems in our lives, our communities, and our world are often too big for us. We don't have the wisdom, the resources, or the strength to solve them on our own. But they're not too big for God. When we make ourselves available to God—offering our limited abilities, our imperfect efforts, and our mustard-seed faith—and combine that with His unlimited power, transformation happens. Mountains move. Seas part. Walls fall. Armies flee. As you face your own challenges and consider God's calling on your life, remember that you don't need to have all the answers. You just need to know the One who is the answer. Your greatest asset isn't your ability but God's presence with you. Today, make yourself available to God, trust in His presence, and watch Him work victory in and through your life.

Bible Verse: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." - 2 Timothy 4:7

Reflection Question: What area of your life seems too challenging to overcome, and how might making yourself available to God while trusting in His presence change your approach to that challenge?

Quote: Success in God's mission isn't based on your ability, but on your availability. Availability plus God's presence equals victory.

Prayer: Lord, I acknowledge that many of my challenges are too big for me, but none are too big for You. I make myself available to You today—my time, my talents, my resources, my very life. Thank You for Your promise to be with me. Help me to trust not in my own strength but in Your presence as my greatest asset. With You, I can face any challenge and fulfill any calling. In Jesus' name, Amen.