

Day 8 - In His Strength

Colossians 1:28-29 has been a favourite of mine for sometime. It is a guiding principle for everything I do.

“He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. **29 To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me**” - Col 1:28-29.

Being lazy in life is not a good option.

But either is thinking you can do it on your own (or in your own strength).

Paul makes it clear that he ‘strives’ but he does it with ‘Christ’s energy’.

The context here is that Paul is talking about being a pastor/evangelist, but the principle is still relevant for all areas of our life. From doing the dishes to grinding the 9-5, or being patient with family or friends.....

We work hard in His strength.

As we set goals and daily take steps in the right direction, be consistent, work hard but draw from the Almighty, powerful God!

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Day 9 - Prayer

Perhaps only equal to worship, what better way to 'draw strength' from the living God is there than prayer.

Prayer is the most under used (and most powerful) weapon we have in our lives. It is the most fundamental to our relationship with God and yet the most neglected.

Prayer is humility (which the Lord blesses!)

Prayer gives divine answers ...

Prayer brings supernatural breakthrough

Prayer shields. prayer hopes, prayer is power, prayer guides and prayer grows us in maturity and relationship with the Lord. It's a conversation, not a monologue.

If there's one thing that will bring the most change in your life, it is daily reading the Bible and prayer.

The most basic of activities with the biggest impact. That's why there is so much opposition to it.

Keep it simple, do it often and don't worry about immediate change. The fruit will come! Transformation will happen over time ...

Day 10 - The Lord's Prayer

This model of prayer is so simple and yet effective! Don't know what to pray? Apparently either did Jesus' disciples. That's why they asked the question, 'how should we pray?'

You can pray it word for word (and I do) but it is so powerful when breaking it down and praying through each part of the prayer. It's a daily template for prayer.

I've recently written about this in greater detail at www.thewalk.blog so I won't make this too long.

It's a community prayer (we all get blessed when we pray it). 'Our Father', 'Give us', 'forgive us'. So let's pray it! I want you to be blessed when I pray it. AND I want to be blessed when you pray it!

It's a daily prayer - 'Give us this day our daily bread'.

It's worship - 'Hallowed be Your Name'.

It's declaration - 'Your Kingdom Come'

It's forgiveness ...

It's provision ...

It's a reminder of who He is

It's great theology ...

It's spiritual warfare and protection ...

And so much more.

You can find it in Matthew 6:9-13

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Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one

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Day 11 - Worship

Worshipping God is the first and greatest commandment
Jesus says - Matthew 22:37-38.

He said it like this, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment'.

Loving God is where everything starts.

The Lord's prayer starts with worship ...

Loving others and even yourself is impossible to do well,
unless you start with loving God. It's an overflow.

In fact loving God is not even the start. The real start is God
loving us!

'We love because he first loved us' - 1 John 4:19.

As you worship God, which brings transformation, don't even
do that in your own strength. Ask the Lord for help with that
and remind yourself about who He is

'Hallowed (Holy) be your name'!

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Day 12 - Thanksgiving

Unbelievers know the power of thanksgiving. Every self-help guru talks about being thankful. They are right. Being thankful brings great benefit to your soul.

And of course we know that our soul, body and spirit are intrinsically intertwined (Day 2). We are triune in nature. Made in His image (Gen 1:26-27).

Where they go wrong though, is offering up thanks to the universe, or just being generally grateful.

When we give thanks to our creator,
our souls come alive,
bitterness fleas,
we remind ourselves of His goodness,
and we invite Him to do it again,
and we invite His presence.

The bible says that 'the testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy' - Revelation 19:10. It is a declaration of what He has done and will do again.

Psalm 100:4 - 'Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise'.

Worship (who He is) and Thanksgiving (what He is done) helps us to enter into His presence, where we are eternally and continually transformed more and more into His likeness

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Day 13 - Humility

We've already touched on humility to some degree, but it's worth a special mention.

If you are like me, you are wanting to see transformation in many areas of your life. From getting a 'six pack' to 'having peace' or seeing circumstances change. We have many things we would like to see changed.

And we've already talked about the need to do all of this 'in his strength', which is really an act of humility, which is why we pray (again humility - I need help!)

It's worth noting that **humility brings favour!**

AND the opposite : **Pride, brings God's opposition!**

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble" - James 4:6.

I have enough opposition in my life. From capitalism wanting more and more from me or my own stupidity or demonic opposition to name just a few.

I certainly don't want to see opposition from God!

Humility brings grace, most probably better translated as favour. And we all need plenty of that!

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Day 14 - Rest

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