
Prepared to Serve: Strengthened to Serve

*New Hope Community Church
Dr. Jack Bracy, January 13, 2019*

Spiritual Strength Is *NOT* Based on
What I Did in The Past

Spiritual Strength *IS* Based on
How I Am Acting *IN FAITH* Today

God Does Not Want Me to Give Up or Give in To the Pressures of Life

“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.” *Galatians 6:9, ESV*

Do Not Give Up

All Your Hard Work Will Pay Off

We Want A Specific Answer

God Wants A Specific Faith

We Want A Time Limit

God's Wants Us to Grow Strong in Our Faith

Ways I Can Build My Spiritual Strength

1. Saturate Myself in The Word of God

“But Jesus told him, “No! The Scriptures say, ‘People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” *Matthew 4:4, NLT*

My Spiritual Strength Comes from The Closeness
of My Relationship with God

You Will Find God in His Word

“For the word of God is living and active...” *Hebrews 4:12, ESV*

2. Take a Step of Faith

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.”
Proverbs 3:5, ESV

A Human Only Perspective Limits My Possibilities

3. Serve Others

“After washing their feet, he put on his robe again and sat down and asked, “Do you understand what I was doing? You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and you are right, because that’s what I am. And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other’s feet.” *John 13:12–14, NLT*

Serving is Meant to Glorify God

4. Turn Each Worry Over to God

“Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.” *Psalms 55:22, ESV*

Do This Each Time A Worry Crops Up

5. Keep My Priorities Straight

“Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.” **Matthew 6:33, NLT**

Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing

6. Make Prayer & Meditation A Habit

“pray without ceasing,” **1 Thessalonians 5:17, ESV**

“And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.” **Luke 18:1, ESV**

When I Keep Saturated in The Things of God,
The Problems of Life Become Manageable