

“GIDEON”

I am currently trying to help several family members and friends as they fight various battles they are engaged in. Today’s “verse of the day” is “When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon he said ‘The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.’” Let me copy and paste this scene from the Bible, then try to explain what I feel...

Judges 6:11-16: *“When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, ‘The LORD is with you, mighty warrior.’ ‘Pardon me, my lord,’ Gideon replied, ‘but if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, ‘Did not the LORD bring us up out of Egypt?’ But now the LORD has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian.’ The LORD turned to him and said, ‘Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian’s hand. Am I not sending you?’ ‘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.’” (NIV)*

Wow! I hope I’m not the only one who can relate to this; I think we often apply Gideon’s questions to our own struggles - “Where are you Lord, and why are you allowing this to happen to me?” I can’t speak for anyone else, but I often feel unprepared and underqualified, not to mention somewhat apprehensive, in facing whatever new battle has unexpectedly confronted me, and often feel like I’m the weakest of the weak! Here’s a scripture I just shared with a friend...

This is from 2 Cor. 12:8-10 in TPT: *“Three times I pleaded with the Lord to relieve me of this. But he answered me, ‘**My grace is always more than enough for you, and my power finds its full expression through your weakness.**’ So I will celebrate my weaknesses, for when I’m weak I sense more deeply the mighty power of Christ living in me. So I’m not defeated by my weakness, but delighted! For when I feel my weakness and endure mistreatment—when I’m surrounded with troubles on every side and face persecution because of my love for Christ—I am made yet stronger. For my weakness becomes a portal to God’s power.”*

I am a strong proponent of calling on the Lord to heal me or deliver me from an illness, or a disease, a pain, or any kind of dilemma I find myself in, but if He doesn’t respond as quickly as I’d like, I have to remind myself that if I have committed whatever it is to Him in prayer, then it’s no longer my problem, but His, and I can rely on His strength to get me through to victory! Just as Paul said: ...” *my weakness becomes a portal to God’s power.*” Amen? Amen!!