

God is our Strength and Power: Prayerful is Powerful

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Prayerful is Powerful

- Prayer is a gauge of our spiritual lives
 - “The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous.” (Proverbs 15:29)
- Jesus taught and showed that prayer gives strength (Lk 21:36; 22:32)
- Prayer empowered the early Christians (Acts 4:23-31; Acts 12:5; James 5:16)
- Paul learned the lesson of true power and strength (2 Cor 12:7-10)
 - Strength can weaken; weakness strengthens when Jesus is with us (episkēnō)
 - His prayer (v.9) was powerful: he persisted in trying to affect the Lord; but he accepted Christ’s provision.
 - Prayer empowers us with help (when we receive what we ask) or humility and contentment (when we don’t receive what we ask for). (1 John 5:14; Isa 40:31)
- You need to apply this power everywhere (Phil 4:6–7; 1 Tim 2:1)
- We need to pray at all times (Luke 18:1; 2 Thess 1:11)
 - “pray without ceasing,” (1 Thessalonians 5:17)