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He Is In You

There is one important truth that should be embedded in our heart of hearts that will help us succeed. Yet, for some reason, it is easy for us believers to let it go or to miss it. It's a simple message that you've heard many times before, and it is that you are not alone. This understanding is the position where great courage comes from. There are many moments in our lives when we need bravery to step forward, especially when we are obeying something the Lord is instructing us to do. It is on some of these occasions when it seems easier to run away than to walk towards God's will when we really need His help and strength.

Maybe you've heard it said that courage is not the absence of fear, but it's what you stand in to overcome fear. How many times have you felt weak and undeserving to move forward in the things of God? For me personally, I don't think I've ever felt strong enough or smart enough in anything He has told me to do, and still, He continues to believe in me. He believes in you as well, and this is why it's so important to embrace the simple truth that you are not alone.

Think of the boastful young David as he stood before Goliath and the entire Philistine army. He said in 1 Samuel 17:45-47, *"Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. "This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. "Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's, and He will give you into our hands."*

David's bravery was not based on his own ability and strength but on a trust that he was not alone in this battle. It reminds me of the shows where a bullied little boy finally stands up to his attackers only to find them run away in terror, and when he turns around, he sees that his big brother is standing behind him. The courage to face anything is birthed in this place of understanding that you are not standing alone.

The world can never teach this type of strength because it is alone in its abilities. Worldly wisdom can teach you how to connect to people and build support around you in this life. However, what I am talking about is not finding strength in others or your own abilities but instead relying on your divine connection with God. Jesus was talking about you on the very day that you were born again when He said in John 14:20, *"At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you."* Right now, at this moment, you are not alone, but you are connected to Him, and He is in you.

With the bombardment of all the concerns and troubles we face in life, it can be very easy to forget you are not alone. He isn't just with you, but He is actually in you and you in Him. There have been times in my past when I found myself in worry and fear, struggling for answers

to situations. I would lean on my own understanding and use my own strength and abilities in those moments because I lost sight that God was with me.

Many dysfunctional people know that they will never make it without God as their strength, so they constantly look to Him just to survive. There is so much more in your future than just surviving because God's heart is for us to flourish and leave an impact on the earth. It's because of His wonderful plans that some Christians who are strong in their own abilities must be careful not to rely on that strength.

Even Jesus, who is the strongest of all, would only rely on God. *"Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner." John 5:19.* It may be hard to accept, but your Heavenly Father has plans for you that are bigger and greater than your abilities.

Someone once said that you are not in His will if you can do your life without God's help. Once you are in the Family, the most crucial embrace is to hold on to Him as your only hope because He is in you and with you. Have you ever wondered why God never gets nervous about your circumstances or needs? When you approach God about a struggle or battle, you only find peace. There is a reason why He doesn't jump into fear with you.

It's because He doesn't expect you to stand in your strength but His, and He knows that in Him, we can never lose. The pathway for a Christian is not to get stronger but to get stronger in Him, and when we truly know this truth, we will find an unshakable peace. What a great position we can live in, knowing that we are never alone and never expected to do it alone. He is forever your strength, your joy, and your courage.

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