

July 24, 2026

Strengthen the Weary

July Series: Stronger Together

Week Focus: The Power of Encouragement

Scripture – Isaiah 35:3–4 - *"Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, 'Be strong, do not fear; your God will come...'"*

Devotional Reflection

Everyone experiences seasons of weariness. Even the strongest believers encounter moments when they feel physically exhausted, emotionally drained, or spiritually discouraged. Life has a way of testing our endurance through unexpected challenges, unanswered prayers, difficult decisions, and painful disappointments. Isaiah 35:3–4 reminds us that when people become weary, God calls His people to strengthen them. Encouragement is not simply a kind gesture—it is a ministry that God uses to help others keep moving forward.

Sometimes we mistakenly assume that those who appear strong do not need encouragement. Yet Scripture reminds us that everyone can grow weary. Faithful servants become tired. Loving parents become overwhelmed. Dedicated leaders become discouraged. Even mature believers have moments when they need someone to remind them that God is still with them. One encouraging conversation, one heartfelt prayer, one thoughtful message, or one reminder of God's promises can become exactly what someone needs to find the strength to take the next step.

Throughout Scripture, God often strengthened His people through other people. Moses was encouraged by Aaron and Hur when his hands grew tired. Barnabas became known as the "Son of Encouragement" because he consistently strengthened others in their faith. Paul repeatedly encouraged the churches to stand firm during seasons of hardship. God could have worked independently, but He often chose to use ordinary believers as instruments of extraordinary encouragement. That same ministry continues today.

One of the greatest gifts you can offer someone is hope. Encouragement does not remove another person's struggle, but it reminds them that they do not have to face it alone. It points them back to the faithfulness of God. It reminds them that their current season is not their final destination. Sometimes people simply need someone to stand beside them and say, "Keep trusting God. Keep believing. Don't give up. The Lord is still working."

Today, ask the Holy Spirit to make you sensitive to those who may be growing weary. Someone around you may be carrying a burden that no one else can see. Your words, your presence, your prayer, or your kindness may become the very encouragement God uses to strengthen them. Never underestimate the impact of helping someone take one more faithful step. Encouragers become partners with God in strengthening His people.

Focus for Today

God can use my encouragement to strengthen someone who is growing weary.

Practice

- Pray and ask God to place someone on your heart who may need encouragement.
 - Reach out to that person with a phone call, text message, or prayer.
 - Share a promise from God's Word with someone facing a difficult season.
 - Ask yourself: **"Who can I help keep going today?"**
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Prayer

Father, thank You for strengthening me during the difficult seasons of my life. Help me become someone who notices when others are weary and responds with compassion. Fill my heart with Your love and my mouth with words that bring hope, courage, and faith. Use me to steady those whose knees are weak and encourage those whose hearts are fearful. May my life reflect the ministry of encouragement that Jesus demonstrated so faithfully. In His name, Amen.

Reflection Question

Who in your life may be silently growing weary, and how can God use you today to strengthen their faith and remind them not to give up?