

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.* Ephesians 6:10-13 (NIV)

## Open My Eyes

I would like you to open my eyes. **How do you want me to open your eyes? What do you want me to help you to see?** Let me tell you. I have been very slow to recognize spiritual battles. Often times, I have thought that I was just facing routine difficulties and significant trials. **Do you see things differently now?** Yes, I do. I can look back, with the benefit of hindsight, and often understand when I have gone through far more than a battle with flesh and blood. **It is good that you are evaluating and reflecting on the experiences you have gone through in the past.** Why is that? **You tell me.** Recognizing what I have gone through in the past will help me to better understand what I am going through now or will go through in the future. **That's right. Let me ask you a question.** Go ahead, I'm listening. **Have you ever come into a difficult and trying situation and thought, "I've been here and done that before?"** Yes, I have had that experience before. Some difficult and trying spiritual battles have repeated themselves. **Have you responded differently because you have had a prior experience with a difficult and significant spiritual battle?** There is no doubt about that. **How so?** I have been able to say to myself, "Last time I went through this similar spiritual battle I relied on myself and it didn't go well." With that in mind, I have much more quickly and eagerly come to ask you for your help. Instead of trying to fight with my own wisdom and power and strength, I have cried out to you. Instead of taking my own ineffective action, I have turned to you in prayer. You have given me your wisdom and understanding. You have given me your power and strength. You have led me on a course of action. You have guarded and guide my path. Instead of suffering a humiliating defeat; you have led me in victory. **So, what will you do differently with any difficulty and trial you face?** I will turn to you. I will ask for your help. I will rely on you instead of relying on myself. **Are your eyes now open? Do you now have a different understanding? Have I answered your prayer?** Yes, you have answered my prayer. **That is very good.**

*Lord, I have been slow to recognize when I have been in far more than a flesh and blood battle. Help me to recognize the devil's schemes. Help me to put on your armor and be strong with your mighty power so I can stand against evil attacks of every kind. Amen*

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Be Strong In The Lord*

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

NIV Ephesians 6:10-13

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Be Strong In The Lord*

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm.

NLT Ephesians 6:10-13

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Be Strong In The Lord*

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

NRSV Ephesians 6:10-13

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Be Strong In The Lord*

In conclusion, be strong in the Lord [be empowered through your union with Him]; draw your strength from Him [that strength which His boundless might provides]. Put on God's whole armor [the armor of a heavy-armed soldier which God supplies], that you may be able successfully to stand up against [all] the strategies and the deceits of the devil. For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despoticisms, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere.

AMP Ephesians 6:10-13

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Be Strong In The Lord*

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

NASB Ephesians 6:10-13

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Be Strong In The Lord*

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

ESV Ephesians 6:10-13

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Be Strong In The Lord*

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

NKJV Ephesians 6:10-13

## **Becoming Like Christ** *God Is Strong*

And that about wraps it up. God is strong, and he wants you strong. So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the Devil throws your way. This is no afternoon athletic contest that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the Devil and all his angels. Be prepared. You're up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it's all over but the shouting you'll still be on your feet.

MSG Ephesians 6:10-13

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Strength Must Come From The Lord*

Last of all I want to remind you that your strength must come from the Lord's mighty power within you. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand safe against all strategies and tricks of Satan. For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against persons without bodies—the evil rulers of the unseen world, those mighty satanic beings and great evil princes of darkness who rule this world; and against huge numbers of wicked spirits in the spirit world. So use every piece of God's armor to resist the enemy whenever he attacks, and when it is all over, you will still be standing up.

TLB Ephesians 6:10-13

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Be Strong In The Lord*

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his great power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can fight against the devil's evil tricks. Our fight is not against people on earth but against the rulers and authorities and the powers of this world's darkness, against the spiritual powers of evil in the heavenly world. That is why you need to put on God's full armor. Then on the day of evil you will be able to stand strong. And when you have finished the whole fight, you will still be standing.

NCV Ephesians 6:10-13

# Be Strong In The Lord

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Becoming Like Christ** – Ephesians 6:10-13

**In Context:** *Read Ephesians 6*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Ephesians 6:10-13 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Finally, | be strong | in the Lord | and in | his mighty power. | Put on | the full armor | of God | so that | you can take | your stand against | the devil's schemes. | For our struggle | is not against | flesh and blood, | but against | the rulers, | against the authorities, | against the powers | of this | dark world | and | against | the spiritual forces | of evil | in the | heavenly realms. | Therefore | put on | the full armor | of God, | so that | when the day | of evil comes, | you may | be able | to stand | your ground, | and after | you have done everything, | to stand. Ephesians 6:10-13 (NIV)

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**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I have been slow to recognize when I have been in far more than a flesh and blood battle. Help me to recognize the devil's schemes. Help me to put on your armor and be strong with your mighty power so I can stand against evil attacks of every kind. Amen

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**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

Why can you be certain that days will come when you are under the attack of evil?

**When have you come to realize that you were in far more than a flesh and blood struggle?**

When have you become aware of a strategy that the devil was using to attack you?

When have you removed yourself from situations that have placed you under evil attack?

**How have you come to rely on the Lord and His power to help you to stand against evil?**

How are you putting on the full armor of God so you will be able to stand against evil?

**What prayers have you prayed as you have been under the attack of evil?**

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**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Rely on the Lord to help you to stand against attacks of evil of every kind.

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**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to stand against the attacks of evil of every kind.

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**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are relying on the Lord to help you to stand against evil.

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**Close With Prayer:**

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you be strong with the strength the Lord will give you to stand against evil of every kind.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will rely on your power and strength to stand against evil of every kind.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how will you help today to stand against evil of every kind?*

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