

Staying Strong - Week 1

Circle the word that is most important to you.

Every Dad wants to be a strong man for their wife and children but it takes all kinds of different strengths to be a good dad.

1) You don't have to be a perfect dad to be a good dad! Your Father will work with you on what you are weak at and make you stronger. *Lamentations 3:22-23*

2) You become a better dad and person by having a strong relationship with your perfect Heavenly Father and imitating how He fathers you. *Ephesians 5:1-2; Ephesians 6:4*

3) You become a better dad and person by "getting grace" and then "giving grace" to others. God's amazing grace makes us strong and helps us "get through" life's challenges and "get along" with people when they are hard to love. *2 Timothy 2:1 - Timothy, my dear son, be strong through the grace that God gives you in Christ Jesus.*

How do we build this kind of strength that comes from God's grace into our lives and our children's lives?

1. Show and tell them how dear they are to us and help them experience God's unconditional love and acceptance. *2 Timothy 1:1-4*

2. Help them build on the belief strengths they already have and fan into flames their unique SHAPE for God's glory. *2 Timothy 1:5-7*

3. Help them identify and overcome their fears and work with them to develop a relationship with the Holy Spirit. *2 Timothy 1:7; Ephesians 3:16-20; Galatians 5:22-23*

Staying Strong All Summer Long Plan

1. Read the Bible reading plan as a family
2. Pick a scripture to memorize weekly and give a prize to all who do.
3. Talk honestly about what your personal fears are and how you could help one another overcome them.
4. Pray for one another and ask for God to reveal what each other's divine design is. Go through our SHAPE workbook and discover new insights about one another.
5. Read a biography of a Christian missionary or leader around a family campfire and let their story fan into flames your faith in Christ.
6. Pick another family to do an act of kindness for weekly or do a mission trip with a ministry we support.

Next Week's Message: Never Be Ashamed

Life Applications Questions:

- 1) What does it mean to be strong through the grace that God gives you in Christ Jesus? How are you doing that? Where are you weak?
- 2) What fears do you battle with? How hot is your fire for Christ now? Do you know what your gifts are? Are you using them? Why or why not?