

Summary of the Message:
“Kingdom, Power, Glory: Quietness + Confidence = Strength”
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I. INTRODUCTION: THE DISCIPLE’S REQUEST AND THE KINGDOM CONTEXT

A. The Request: “Lord, Teach Us to Pray” (Luke 11:1; Matthew 6:9–13)

- Jesus models prayer for His disciples—not *the Lord’s* prayer, but *our* prayer.
- The prayer closes with a reminder of divine ownership and sovereignty:
“For Yours is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever.”

B. Meaning of the Three Realms of God

1. **Kingdom** – God’s *rule and authority*.
 2. **Power** – God’s *ability to accomplish His will*.
 3. **Glory** – God’s *majesty and divine presence*.
- These belong to God alone; not to governments, politicians, or human systems.
 - Believers operate in a higher kingdom, with higher power, for the glory of God.

II. THE KINGDOM IS LIGHT IN A DARK WORLD

A. The Bright Light of God’s Kingdom (Matthew 5:14)

- Jesus said, “You are the light of the world; a city on a hill cannot be hidden.”
- Christ has transferred His light to His followers.
- **Application:**
 - You are already visible—so *shine*.
 - Others are already watching, so *be the light*.
 - “You may as well shine!”

III. THE KINGDOM IS TRANSFORMATIVE

A. The Call of the Disciples (Matthew 4:18–20)

- Jesus said, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”
- Transformation begins when we *follow*; God *makes* us.
- The Kingdom changes identity and purpose.

B. Cooperation with God’s Transforming Power

- Transformation requires yielding, not striving.
- God’s kingdom forms new purpose, power, and personhood.

IV. THE KINGDOM IS FULL OF STRENGTH

(Isaiah 30:15–16)

“In returning and rest you shall be saved;
In quietness and confidence shall be your strength;
But you would not...”

A. The Prophetic Context

- Judah sought political alliances (Egypt) instead of trusting God.
- God rebuked them: “You take counsel, but not of Me.”

- The warning: reliance on worldly systems leads to weakness and dependence.

B. Worldly Systems vs. God's Kingdom

- Earthly systems concentrate power and wealth among a few.
- God's kingdom strengthens, uplifts, and liberates people.
- True strength is found *only* in God's rule.

V. THE FALSE STRENGTH OF SPEED AND STRIVING

A. The Futility of Running Faster

- "We will flee on swift horses..." — but "those who pursue you shall be swift."
- You cannot outrun anxiety, distraction, or fear.
- The faster you run, the faster your troubles seem to chase you.
- **Principle:** The answer is not *speed* but *stillness*.

B. Modern Application

- People try to fix weakness by posturing strength—pretending to be powerful.
- Strength doesn't come from *acting strong* but from *quietness of heart* and *confidence in God*.

VI. TRUE STRENGTH ILLUSTRATED: HARRIET TUBMAN

A. Example of Spiritual Strength

- Physically small (about 5 feet tall), formerly enslaved, but mighty in faith.
- Escaped 90 miles to freedom and returned to rescue ~70 others.
- Served as a *scout and spy* during the Civil War and later as an *activist*.

B. The Source of Her Strength

- Quote: "I prayed to God to make me strong and able to fight."
- Her strength came from God, not size or status.
- True strength is moral, spiritual, and rooted in trust and courage.

VII. RETURNING, RESTING, AND KNOWING GOD

A. Returning and Rest (Isaiah 30:15)

- **Returning** = *repentance* — turning back to God.
- **Rest** = *tranquility and settledness*.
- Deliverance comes through *surrender*, not striving.
- Rest is not inactivity—it is *trusting the power of another (God)*.

B. Quietness and Confidence

- **Quietness:** Calm heart; stillness of spirit.
- **Confidence:** Assurance in God's character and promises.
- "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).
 - You *know* only after you *be still*.
 - Stillness allows God's presence to fill the heart.

C. Results of Quiet Confidence

- "The work of righteousness will be peace" (Isaiah 32:17).
- When God is with you, you can *move without fear*.
- If you are still fearful—sit back down until peace returns.

VIII. THE HUMAN TENDENCY TO MOVE FASTER

A. God Says: “Rest.” Humanity Says: “No.”

- Israel said, “We will flee on swift horses.”
- **Principle:** The human reflex is to move faster rather than trust deeper.
- **Lesson:** You need *stillness*, not *speed*.

B. Trust in God, Not in Systems

- “Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.” (Psalm 20:7)
- Wealth, systems, and networks can change—but God remains faithful.
- Even abundance (money, success) is no substitute for *trust in the Lord*.

IX. THE POWER OF STILLNESS

A. Stillness Is Productive, Not Passive

- God’s kingdom is productive—just not busy.
- Stillness reorders priorities and aligns you with God’s presence.
- It helps you *reframe* life’s situations through faith:
 - “It’s bad, but God’s got it.”
 - “It’s chaotic, but God’s got me.”

B. Illustration: Captain “Sully” Sullenberger

- During the “Miracle on the Hudson,” he acted calmly under pressure.
- His stillness allowed his training—and God’s grace—to work.
- **Lesson:** You can’t perform CPR, pilot a plane, or save a life while frantic.
 - Stillness lets knowledge, faith, and grace operate effectively.

X. THE INVITATION TO REST IN CHRIST (Matthew 11:28)

“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

A. God’s Offer vs. Humanity’s Resistance

- Many hear this call but refuse it—choosing “swift horses” instead.
- Jesus invites us to *stop striving* and receive His *rest*.

XI. APPLICATION AND RESPONSE

1. Return to God Daily

- Repent, realign, and rest—make it a daily rhythm.
- Don’t wait for crisis to return; stay aligned continuously.

2. Seek Strength Through Quiet Time

- Prayer and meditation on God’s Word.
- Meditate—turn truth over and over until it shapes your heart.

3. Value Stillness with God Over Speed Without Him

- Resist the culture of hurry.
- Strength grows in *quiet confidence*, not constant motion.

4. Trust That When You Stop Striving, God Starts Moving

- Let surrender activate divine strength.
- Faith rests, and rest becomes power.

XII. CONCLUSION AND PRAYER

- **Summary Statement:**
“Quietness + Confidence = Strength.”
God’s kingdom is not built on noise, speed, or display—but on returning, resting, and trusting.
- **Closing Prayer Highlights:**
 - Thank God for His kingdom, power, and glory.
 - Ask for grace to practice stillness, repentance, and confidence.
 - Celebrate examples of spiritual strength (like Harriet Tubman).
 - Reaffirm trust in God’s rule: *“Yours is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, forever.”*