



***KNOCKED DOWN BY
WEAKNESS***
July 24, 2016

“The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right.” 2 Timothy 3:16 (LB)

“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.” 2 Timothy 1:7 (NIV)

“Keep your heart on the right path.” Proverbs 23:19 (NIV)

THE PATHWAYS OF SPIRITUAL POWER

I. WHEN YOU’RE PRESSURED BY PEOPLE, CHOOSE THE PATHWAY OF INTEGRITY.

“He said, ‘Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.’ Then Nebuchadnezzar said, ‘Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants!’” Daniel 3:25, 28 (NIV)

“May integrity and honesty protect me, for I put my hope in you.” Psalm 25:21 (NLT)

“I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity.” I Chronicles 29:17 (NIV)

FOUR KEYS TO TRUE INTEGRITY

- Make Up Your Mind
- Do The Right Thing
- Risk Your Future
- Trust Your Father

2. WHEN YOU'RE SCARED BY A SITUATION, CHOOSE THE PATHWAY OF PRAYER.

"Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?" Daniel answered, "May the king live forever! My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions..." Daniel 6:20-22 (NIV)

"Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before." Daniel 6:10 (NIV)

"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." 1 Peter 5:8 (NIV)

3. WHEN YOU'RE OVERWHELMED BY AN OPPORTUNITY, CHOOSE THE PATHWAY OF SERVICE.

"I am the Lord's servant," said Mary; "may it happen to me as you have said." Luke 1:38 (TEV)

"Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve..." Matthew 20:28 (LB)

"...whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant." Mark 10:43 (NIV)

"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us." 2 Corinthians 4:7 (NIV)

"Apart from Me you can do nothing." John 15:5 (NIV)

"I can do all things through Christ, because he gives me strength." Philippians 4:13 (NCV)

"With God's power working in us, God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or imagine." Eph. 3:20 (NCV)

I WILL GET BACK UP BY...

- Memorizing **2 Timothy 1:7**.
- Discovering God's power for every circumstance I may face.
- Accepting that I am only a jar of clay in constant need of Christ's all-surpassing power.
- Giving my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.

WALK THE TALK ***A Growth Group Guide***

1. When was a time you felt at the end of your rope and God intervened at the last minute? What did that teach you?
2. Of the three individuals we studied this past week (the "Three Hebrew Children," Daniel, and Mary), which one is a stand-out in your life right now? Explain.
3. As you dig into the power of integrity in the story of the "Three Hebrew Children," consider what pressures you have faced to lose your own integrity in the workplace, or in some other area of life. How did you navigate through that?
4. As you dig into the power of prayer in the story of Daniel, do you remember a time when you saw God "shut the mouth of the lions" yourself? How was prayer critical to your getting out of the den unscathed?
5. Looking at the power of service in the story of Mary, is there something she did that has helped you to accept a challenging opportunity before you? What did you *not* do that you will do when you are given a new opportunity?
6. Choose the most helpful Scripture in the outline above and explain to us why it is the most meaningful to you right now.