

## Pt. 4: Still Standing

Questions for further study and application:

Day 1 Read 1 Peter 5:8b. There is a very real enemy that is always looking to knock you down off the hill. He wants to see you fail, to see you defeated, and he will do anything he can to keep you trapped in the valley. Take heart, because no matter what you are facing, you will be still be standing tomorrow. God is going to bring you through whatever low in life you may be experiencing. When you are weak, He is strong. Even when you are feeling strong, He is stronger. The key is you must learn to rely on Him regardless of whether you are standing on the highest hill or in the lowest valley.

Day 2 It's important to learn to speak with certainty about your future, even though your current reality may seem bleak. You may be in the valley, but you do not have to let the circumstances of the valley define you. Soon enough you will find yourself on the hill, so talk about your situation in those terms. Read Joshua 1:9. Even though you might not be able to see your way out, you can have faith that God already has a plan to get you back to the top of the hill. Resist questioning God when things aren't going your way, and give Him thanks praise when things are going well. The choices you make while you're in the valley can either move you closer to God, or further away from Him. This week, choose to bolster your faith and talk about your circumstances with the expectation that God will bring you through.

Day 3 Read Psalm 18:32-33. This verse tells you that God is going to give you the strength and guidance you need to make it through the good points, and bad points in life. Today's culture tells you that you must always be strong and never show weakness. Growing up, you are taught to be independent, yet God wants you to be dependent on Him and dependent on His strength. Make time in your day to spend time with Jesus, away from distractions. Doing this allows you to be more connected with God, and He is able to refresh and strengthen you. Commit to spend time with God each day and have faith in His strength.

Day 4 Both David and Habakkuk wrote that God gave them feet of deer that allowed them to stand strong in life. This may sound odd, but deer have split hooves that give them the ability to climb steep hills, travel narrow paths, and harrowing conditions. The split hoof has a hard exterior for protection and a soft interior. God's Word acts as the exterior hoof and serves to equip you, strengthen you, and help you persevere through the trials of life. Spend time with God's Word to better understand it, and even memorize it. The enemy is going to do everything he can to take you down, but God wants you to know that you will still be standing. Read James 4:8. Daily, make time to read a devotional, listen to worship music, or read your Bible to help you stand the test of time.

Day 5 Spending time with God's Word will make you more durable, but you also need the soft part of the interior hoof, which is the equivalent to having a receptive heart to God's Spirit. You develop a receptive heart by being obedient, and staying tuned into God. You have to have both the strong exterior and soft interior to stand strong no matter where you are in life. If you're feeling alone and hopeless, remember the Lord is close to the broken hearted (Psalm 34:18-19). If you're filled with anxiety, God says to cast your anxiety on Him because He cares (1 Peter 5:7). Don't let the devil have the satisfaction of laughing when you fall. Turn to God, and be confident that while you may stumble, or fall, you trust that God will lift you up.

## What's New?

Join us on Sunday, May 13, at every campus as we celebrate the commitment made between parents, God, and the church to raise children to know, love, and serve God. Register your child if they are under the age of two at [watersedgechurch.net/babydedication](http://watersedgechurch.net/babydedication).