



Servant's Corner

September 2014

Serving in **His** Strength
By Rich Henderson, Love INC Director

"...whoever serves, let him do so as by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ..." 1 Peter 4:11b

Lately I've been singing Martin Luther's classic hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God". It is a great "fight song" to stick in your quiver when you sense you are under a spiritual attack. Luther recognized the feebleness of our own efforts at victory with this stanza, "Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing." If it's just us against the Devil, we lose.

We acknowledge that principle in the area of spiritual warfare, but in the verse above, Peter tells us the same principle applies to service. Peter gives two broad categories of spiritual gifts, speaking gifts and serving gifts. His admonition to those who exercise serving gifts is "*let him do so as by the strength which God supplies*".

In practical terms, what would this look like when it comes to serving others? How would it be different than confiding in our own strength? Here are a few things to get you started in answering that question:

Admitting your own inability. Better to admit right out of the gate that you, unaided by the Holy Spirit, don't have the strength to serve in a God-honoring way.

Pray. Ask God to supply the needed strength to serve Him well.

Examine your motive. Be honest here. Who do you want to get the glory, you or God? Repent if necessary.

Trust the Holy Spirit to empower you. God delights to display His power through humble, willing vessels. If you've asked for His strength, then expect it. Be quick to give Him credit when He works.



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