



We felt like we'd been sent to death row, that it was all over for us. As it turned out, it was the best thing that could have happened. Instead of trusting in our own strength or wits to get out of it, we were forced to trust God totally--not a bad idea since he's the God who raises the dead! **2 Corinthians 1:9** (MP)

...every child of God is able to defeat the world. And we win the victory over the world by means of our faith. **1 John 5:4** (GNB)

And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. **Hebrews 11:32-34** (NIV)

- The question is not, “_____ strengthen me?”
- The question is, “_____ allow Him to strengthen me?”

➤ **THREE WAYS I CAN ALLOW GOD TO STRENGTHEN ME.**

1 GOD STRENGTHENS ME AS I _____ WHAT HE SAYS.

The Angel of the LORD came and sat beneath the great tree at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash of the clan of Abiezer. Gideon son of Joash was threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites. ¹² The Angel of the LORD appeared to him and said...**Judges 611-12** (NLT)

NOTE: God speaks through His written Word and His Messengers. If a messenger and the word ever contradict, always believe the word.

- I believe God's _____.

When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, “The LORD is with you, mighty warrior. **Judges 6:12** (NIV)

- I believe God's _____.

Then the LORD turned to him and said, “Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!” **Judges 6:14** (NIV)

That same night the LORD said to him, “Take the second bull from your father's herd, the one seven years old. Tear down your father's altar to Baal and cut down the Asherah pole beside it. **Judges 6:12** (NIV)

- I believe God's _____.

I am sending you...I will be with you... **Judges 6:16, 17** (NIV)

Listening + Obeying = _____

Ignoring + Disobeying = _____

I snatched you from the power of Egypt and from the hand of all your oppressors. I drove them from before you and gave you their land. ¹⁰ I said to you, ‘I am the LORD your God; do not worship the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you live.’ But you have not listened to me. **Judges 6:9, 10** (NIV)

I said to you, ‘I am the LORD your God; you shall not fear the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell.’ But you have not obeyed my voice.” **Judges 6:10** (ESV)

Scripture says, “If you hear God speak today, don't be stubborn. Don't be stubborn like those who rebelled.” ¹⁶ Who heard God and rebelled? All those whom Moses led out of Egypt rebelled. ¹⁷ With whom was God angry for 40 years? He was angry with those who sinned and died in the desert. ¹⁸ Who did God swear would never enter his place of rest? He was talking about those who didn't obey him. ¹⁹ So we see that they couldn't enter his place of rest because they didn't believe. **Hebrews 3:15-19** (GW)

2. GOD STRENGTHENS ME AS I _____ MY ADVERSARIES.

Adversary #1 - I must confront _____.

- Most of Gideons words were used to express _____.

“When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, “The LORD is with you, mighty warrior.” ¹³ “But sir,” Gideon replied, “if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our fathers told us about when they said, ‘Did not the LORD bring us up out of Egypt?’ But now the LORD has abandoned us and put us into the hand of Midian.”¹⁴ But the Lord turned to him and said...I will save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?” ¹⁵ “But Lord,” Gideon asked, “how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family. **Judges 6:12-15** (NIV)

Then Gideon said to God, “If You are truly going to use me to rescue Israel as You promised, ³⁷ prove it to me in this way. I will put a wool fleece on the threshing floor tonight. If the fleece is wet with dew in the morning but the ground is dry, then I will know that You are going to help me rescue Israel as You promised.” **Judges 6:36-37** (NLT)

God will not always bless my _____,
but he will always bless my _____!

Jesus responded, “The people of an evil and unfaithful era look for a miraculous sign. **Matthew 12:39** (GW)

He empowers the feeble and infuses the powerless with increasing strength.
Isaiah 40:31 (TPT)