

## God-Given Strengths of Fathers and How the Enemy Twists Them

June 15, 2025

### 1. Strength → Twisted into Arrogance or Harshness

Fathers are called to be strong protectors and providers, but the enemy twists this into dominance or intimidation.

- 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 – “Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.”
- Ephesians 6:4 – “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger...”

### 2. Leadership → Twisted into Control or Passivity

Fathers lead their families spiritually and morally, but the devil tempts men toward domination or disengagement.

- 1 Timothy 3:4 – “He must manage his own household well...”
- Matthew 23:11 – “The greatest among you shall be your servant.”

### 3. Provision → Twisted into Materialism or Workaholism

Provision should come from love, not from identity in wealth or busyness.

- 1 Timothy 5:8 – “But if anyone does not provide for his relatives... he has denied the faith.”
- Matthew 6:19 – “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth...”

### 4. Wisdom → Twisted into Pride or Know-it-all Attitude

Godly wisdom should lead to humility and peace, not arrogance.

- James 3:17 – “The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle...”
- Proverbs 11:2 – “When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom.”

### 5. Courage → Twisted into Recklessness or Fear

True courage is grounded in trust in God, not bravado or avoidance.

- Joshua 1:9 – “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous...”
- 2 Timothy 1:7 – “For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.”

### 6. Identity → Twisted into Shame or Egotism

A father's identity should be rooted in being a son of God, not in ego or shame.

- 1 John 3:1 – “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God...”
- 1 Peter 5:6 – “Humble yourselves... so at the proper time he may exalt you.”

### 7. Faithfulness → Twisted into Stubbornness or Unreliability

Faithfulness should reflect God's nature—steady and true.

- Proverbs 28:20 – “A faithful man will abound with blessings...”
- Matthew 5:37 – “Let your ‘Yes’ be yes and your ‘No’ be no...”

### 8. Affection → Twisted into Absence or Misplaced Love

Fathers are to show genuine, godly affection to their families.

- Psalm 103:13 – “As a father shows compassion to his children...”
- 1 Corinthians 13:4-5 – “Love is patient... does not insist on its own way...”

**KIDS CLASSES** For Children up to 7th grade! Check your kids for age specific classes. Preschool through elementary will be dismissed for class at approximately 9:25am by a message on the screen.

**NEXT STEPS** Today during the Message If you would like to learn more about our church and how to get connected, we offer this 4 week class each month. This week we will be talking about the Holy Spirit.

**VICTORY PRAYER** Schedule a time on ChurchCenter Find deliverance breakthrough and victory through the power of prayer.

this week...

**CROSS CURRENT YOUTH** Fridays at 6pm Our 7th-12th graders gather on Friday nights here at the church. This Friday is our Senior night which will include prophetic ministry and ice cream!

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** Fridays at 6pm Gather with others finding freedom from life's hurts, habits, and hangups.

**NEW GET HEALTHY GROUP** Saturdays at Whalen Park Bruce Beckstead is starting a group walking the Whalen Park trail using the book *The Daniel Plan*. They will meet every Saturday in June, July & August at 10am at Whalen Park. Sign up for the group in ChurchCenter and see Bruce for more information.

coming up...

**KIDZ CAMP** July 7th-11th This year's theme is Live it Out: Love Like Jesus. Stop by the table in the hallway to learn more about how you can volunteer. And register by Thursday in order to order a camp t-shirt!

**LOVE MASSENA** July 12th at Alcoa Park Stop at the table in the hallway to sign up for where you will be serving on this fun day in the park!

**YOUTH CAMP** August 17th-21st 7th-12th graders are invited to attend our annual summer camp. This year we will be headed to beautiful Camp Chateaugay. The cost is \$190 per camper and you can register them on ChurchCenter or our website.

**MOMENTUM LEADERSHIP SCHOOL** Accepting Applications

Applications for the 2025-2026 school year are due July 1st. If you are a young adult wanting to commit a year of your life contact Jessica Hurlbut at 315-842-5052

Scan the QR code to register for an upcoming event or find a group to connect to.

