

# Purple Nail Polish

By Pam Lopez



✿ A while back, my teenage daughter made a bold proclamation — she had discovered the strongest nail polish in the world. “Really?” I said. “How did you do that?” “Well,” she replied, “I painted my toenails three weeks ago, and I have tried to take it off twice, but my polish remover isn’t doing a thing to it.” Finding it hard to believe, I told her to get the remover and some cotton balls, and I would do it for her.

✿ Dutifully she complied and planted her foot in my lap. I soaked the cotton ball and rubbed it across her nail. To my amazement there was not even a speck of polish on the cotton. It seemed she had found the strongest polish in the world. It looked as though she would be stuck with purple toenails until it just wore off.

✿ A few days later my daughter came bounding in from her friend’s house. “Look at my toenails,” she said. They were back to their normal color.

✿ “Wow! How did you do that?” I asked.

✿ “I used Lauren’s polish remover,” she said, “and it came right off. The strange thing — it is exactly the same brand as I have.”

✿ Determined to figure out this mystery, I sent her to retrieve her bottle of remover. She handed me the bottle, but the lid was missing. I asked her where it was.

✿ “Oh, I lost it a long time ago.” Now I knew what the problem was. It wasn’t that the polish was so strong, but that the remover was lacking its power. The acetone, the power ingredient of nail polish remover, had evaporated. The remaining liquid in my daughter’s bottle was effectively water and had no power over the polish on her toes.

✿ Sometimes life can be just like that nail polish. We have some problems or issues that we just can’t overcome. We try everything within our power to rid ourselves of the problem, but to no avail. We become convinced that our problem is the toughest one in the world, yet might it be that our faith has been weakened?

✿ Have we allowed our faith to be exposed to the world and its standards, causing us to rely on our own strength to overcome?

✿ Scripture makes it clear: The power ingredient in our faith is God and His Son, Jesus Christ.

✿ *It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect* (2 Samuel 22:33).

✿ *I can do everything through Him who gives me strength* (Philippians 4:13).

✿ Dear sisters, as we continue to live on this earthly planet, let’s ask the Lord to help us keep the “lid” on — allowing the full strength and purity of His Word to guide our lives every step of the way. Be assured of His great promise: Our sins are wiped forever clean by the cleansing blood of Jesus.

✿ *Pam, a daughter of the King, along with her husband, Ray, reside in southern Alabama where his military career brought them 23 years ago. The mother of six great kids, she finds herself behind the wheel of a big yellow bus during the school year.*

