

Dear God ...

I need to be still with You right now. I need to rest in Your comfort and grace. Life seems to be swirling around me, and I feel like I am going to lose it! The fires of schedules, carpools, volunteering, and even vacation preparation are lighting up all around me. Instead of letting go and knowing that You are in control, I feel like I am snapping at everyone. Help me to rejoice in all these things, looking to you daily for the strength I need to put out the fires and to live my life reflecting Your love for me, no matter what situation I face. Thank You for everything You have graciously blessed me with. You are truly a loving Father.

Love, Your daughter

Stand Strong!

Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.
Ephesians 6:10

In a recent conversation with my daughter, I was reminded that in every season of life, different circumstances may challenge us as Christian women to take a stand. Right now she is in middle school and facing some kids who are gossiping. In college, she may encounter a professor who teaches evolution and challenges a student's belief in creation. In the work place, her supervisor may request employees to remove a devotional calendar from their desks.

As parents, we are not exempt from these struggles. We may need to deal with a swim team coach who requests our child to be in the pool four nights a week, making that a priority before church activities and school work.

In each of these circumstances, standing strong in the Lord will be evident by our response. We can put on the full armor of God to stand against the powers of persuasion, false teaching, and any evil we may face, remembering that our great heavenly Father will guide us with His mighty power.



Spotlight on Kristy

As a young Christian woman, Kristy Knapp found herself having a hard time blending into the corporate world. "The corporate world can be an unhappy, unethical environment." So Kristy stepped away from that world to stay at home with her two children and become a freelance designer and artist. Her business centers on Christian ethics, and she is able to share her faith with her clients.

Kristy became involved in LWML when her pastor's wife — also a woman who worked outside the home — decided to start a group that met at night. She invited friends first to gather, led them in a devotional time, and encouraged them each in their faith journey. Kristy believes that if it were not for this personal invitation, she would not be involved in the LWML.

Now Kristy enjoys staying active in her church, where she serves as the Christian life leader for her local LWML group. She was recently appointed to the LWML Graphics Team. As a trained Studio Artist, Kristy continues to use the gifts God has given her, modeling the mission of the LWML: *to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.*

For more information, check out Impressions, the newsletter for young women, at www.lwml.org.

