



Daily Strength for the Battle: Maximizing Your Leadership Impact By Scott & Judy McChrystal

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To all military veterans, past and present, and their families who have served God and Country so nobly and selflessly. Only the Lord and those who have walked that path can fully grasp the incredible commitment, dedication, and sacrifices you have made. Thank you. The prayers and support of our nation are with you.

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### Endorsements

"Scott McChrystal knows God and he knows military personnel. Strength for the Battle brings the two together in a powerful way. Scott's 30 plus years of military leadership enables him to speak with biblical authority into the minds of veterans. This is an excellent tool for bringing veterans into the transformational presence of God."

— George O. Wood, General Superintendent, Assemblies of God General Council

"The stresses of military training and combat heighten spiritual awareness. Scott McChrystal's book hits that mark beautifully! These stories and devotions are solidly focused on God's Word, and written in a way that uniquely connect with the military. The Lord prepared him for this work: first as an infantry platoon leader in Vietnam, a master parachutist and Ranger; then as an Army chaplain serving soldiers and families across the Army; he is father of two soldiers."

- Kenneth L. Farmer, Jr., M.D., MG, USA (Ret)

"Daily Strength for the Battle is a daily devotional that combines spiritual wisdom and practical insights in a readily accessible manner that is sure to appeal to persons both in and outside of the military environment. I highly recommend this new book."

— Rich Hammar, church law authority, writer, speaker

"Chaplain Scott McChrystal is a combat veteran and spiritual warrior who has captured the essence of winning the daily fight against mankind's spiritual enemy. This is a good field manual for every Christian who wants to be prepared for battle"

— LTG Jerry Boykin, USA (RET), former Commander of Delta Force and Commander of USASOC "Chaplain Scott McChrystal served as one of the most beloved chaplains ever at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and throughout the Army. A former infantry officer and Vietnam veteran, Chaplain McChrystal's overall military service have enabled him to touch thousands of America's magnificent warriors. He will influence many more through this powerful devotional book."

— Dave Roever, decorated Vietnam veteran, Military speaker

"Every man, particularly a warrior, needs time every day with his King. Focused, purposeful, gripping time. And if he's a busy man (know any warrior who's not?), the punch of that time is served well by a directed devotional book like this one offered by my friend, Scott McChrystal, who is himself a tested warrior. And a busy, focused, and purposeful man. Enjoy the journey with him. Drive on!"

— Stu Weber, Former Special Forces Officer and Vietnam veteran, author, speaker, pastor

"Given the multitude of challenges faced by our nation's service members, Chaplain Scott McChrystal's Daily Strength for the Battle is a powerful devotional tool for military men, women, and families. This inspirational guide, drawn from Chaplain McChrystal's significant experience as a infantry leader and a chaplain spiritual leader, is a very practical means by which we might all 'put on the armor of God' on a daily basis. I truly applaud this powerful spiritual ammunition to promote 'Faith in the Foxhole and Hope on the Home Front' for military men and women around the globe."

— Major General Bob Dees, US Army (Ret), Executive Director, CCCI Military Ministry

### Introduction

Across our increasingly complex world, the cry goes out for better leaders — every nation, every conceivable kind and level of organization.

Material about leadership is certainly not lacking. During the past several decades, record amounts of materials have been published on the subject. The results, however, have not been record-setting. Consensus seems to report that leadership across the board is not improving. If anything, it might even be in decline.

Is there an explanation? I believe there is.

So what is the real issue? Point blank: the world at large does not take Jesus seriously as a leader.

To a large extent, the Christian world doesn't either. People may look to Jesus for wisdom and encouragement, but they don't believe Jesus has the practical knowledge to solve the "real life" issues relating to finances, health, crime, education, environment, etc. Jesus is just not the "go to" source for handling the everyday practical matters that normal people face.

Likewise, God's Word, the Bible, has been mocked, ignored, discounted, or at best marginalized. Even many Christians feel that the Bible has failed to keep up with the pace of civilization and culture.

There is a popular saying that goes something like this: The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again, expecting a different outcome. Jesus Christ is the best leader who ever walked the planet. John's Gospel reports this about Jesus:

Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.
(John 1:3)

Without sounding too simplistic, the overwhelming amount of material published about leadership represents the best that human effort, human experience, and human wisdom can offer. But we continue to fall woefully short.

Maybe I'm old-fashioned, but it seems logical to me that solving the world's problems should begin by consulting the One who created the world and everything in it.

Scripture contains hundreds of timeless truths that if learned and applied could enhance leadership at all levels across this nation and around the world. The amazing aspect about these truths is that they apply to every language and culture—no exceptions because God designed his truths to be universally relevant for all mankind for all time.

This devotional book is for leaders who desire to consult God for the wisdom and guidance needed to become better leaders. The material is largely geared for military leaders, but the principles apply to all desiring to become better leaders.

Let God's Word help you to become a more effective leader and a better person. If we have better leaders, we will have a better world.

## Maximizing Your Minutes

Christian growth and maturity take effort on a consistent basis. With consistency noted as a key principle, this book is most useful when read on a daily basis. Reading time should take about five minutes.

#### Each volume of *Daily Strength for the Battle*:

- Contains seven weeks of devotions, with one devotion per day
- Each week relates to one theme
- Each weekly theme begins with a practical illustration designed to demonstrate the relevance and importance of each theme
- All daily devotions incorporate topics related to the weekly theme
- All daily devotions begin with a Bible verse related to the topic

A suggested way to approach your devotional time could include the following:

- Prayer ask the Lord to open your heart and mind to the truth of His Word.
- Read the verse at the beginning of the devotional and then paraphrase it in your own words

- Read the devotional
- Try to answer the following questions:
  - What biblical truth does this devotional talk about?
  - How is the truth applied in the devotional?
  - Do I believe this truth could be important for my own life?
  - How can I apply this truth to my own life?
- Close in prayer: ask God to help you integrate this truth into your own life.

Five minutes a day may not seem like much, but you can experience wonderful growth in your Christian life by consistently using these short devotions. The Lord will honor your efforts to honor Him. ■

#### NEW SERIES COMING SOON:

# Forging the Warrior's Spirit

We give thanks to God for privilege of being able to publish and distribute our devotional series Daily Strength For the Battle for the past ten years. These devotionals have made their way into all military services and into many other venues throughout the world in multiple languages.

With the completion of Daily Strength for the Battle, *Volume 5: Maximizing Your Leadership Impact* we sense that our writing assignment is not complete. There is much more to write.

Forging the Warrior's Spirit will be a multi-volume series for leaders at all levels in every walk of life: military, corporate, small business, political, church... all the way to the family unit. Everyone is a leader at some level.

The world desperately needs leaders who can keep pace with complexities and changing demands of an increasingly hostile world.

If you need fresh knowledge, insight, and wisdom to enhance your leadership as you move into the future, this series is designed for you. Every volume will be packed with time-tested principles and practical insights grounded in God's Word.

Additional copies of this volume, as well as other volumes, are available at Our Web site: warriorspiritpublacations.com By e-mail: dailystrengthforthebattle@gmail.com By mail: Warrior Spirit Publications P.O. Box 8125, Springfield, MO 65801