

“Powerful Christian Living” Part 2

1 Corinthians 16:13–14

The Five Principle for living a powerful Christian life.

I. Be on the alert.

II. Stand firm in the Christian faith.

III. Act like men.

1 Corinthians 16:13 “... act like men, be strong. ¹⁴ Let all that you do be done in love.”

A. It is a call to enter into the maturity of manhood.

1. **Basic manhood** – He Provides, Protects, Produces a family.
2. **Spiritual manhood** – He Prays, Progresses, and leads his family spiritually.

B. Maturity must progress in three areas:

1. **In our thinking** - **1 Corinthians 14:20** — “Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be infants, but in your thinking be mature.”
2. **In our care for others** - **Philippians 2:3–4** — “³ Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.”

IV. Be strong.

1 Corinthians 16:13 “... act like men, be strong.

- A. **“Be strong”** – being a passive verb mean “be ye strengthened”. This word denotes an inner spiritual strength.
- B. **Why is it important for the believers to have inner spiritual strength?**
 1. **To defeat the power of the flesh** - **Ephesians 6:10–11** — “¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to

stand firm against the schemes of the devil.”

2. **God’s strength is accessed when we acknowledge personal weakness** - **2 Corinthians 12:9** — “And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.”

C. We grow in strength as we use our strength.

1. **The source of inner strength is the Lord Jesus** - **1 Timothy 1:12** — “I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service,”
2. **The extent of our spiritual strength is immense** - **Philippians 4:13** — “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.”
3. **The goal of spiritual strength is to live pleasing to the Lord** - **Colossians 1:10–11** — “¹⁰ ... walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹ strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might...”

V. Do all things in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13 “... act like men, be strong. ¹⁴ Let all that you do be done in love.”

- A. **Love must be the prime motivator, manner, and attitude of all we do.**
- B. **Love brings all possible excesses of manhood into Godly balance:**

THINK, PRAY and OBEY:

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