

## Daily Might ...

- Brief power-packed inspirational readings for every day of the year!
- Encouragement, comfort, spiritual refreshment—the extra boost you need to make the most of every day!
- Up-to-the-minute applications of Bible principles for happy, successful living!
- Practical pointers to help you meet life's challenges!
- Topical index!

*"Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might"*  
(Ephesians 6:10).

ISBN 3-03730-158-9



A-EN-BA-DV-005-P

**aurora**

[www.auroraproduction.com](http://www.auroraproduction.com)



*Daily Might*

fuel for the soul



# Daily Might

fuel for the soul

# *Daily Might*

David Brandt Berg

## **Acknowledgments**

Unless otherwise indicated, all Bible quotations in this book are from the New King James Version, © 1982 Thomas Nelson, Inc. References marked “KJV” are from the King James Version of the Bible. References marked “TLB” are from The Living Bible, © 1971 by Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. References marked NIV are from the New International Version, © 1973 International Bible Society.

ISBN 3-03730-158-9

Edited by Keith Phillips  
Design by Giselle LeFavre

© 2004 Aurora Production AG, Switzerland  
All Rights Reserved. Printed in Thailand.

Visit our Web site at [www.auroraproduction.com](http://www.auroraproduction.com).

## Introduction

The Bible tells us “God is a Spirit” (John 4:24 KJV) and “God is love” (1 John 4:8). Not only is He the all-powerful, everywhere-present, eternal Spirit of love, but He is also our kind and loving heavenly Father who created this beautiful world for us to live in and enjoy.

God is far beyond our human understanding, but because He loves us and wants us to know and love Him, He sent His Son to us in the form of a man, Jesus Christ. Jesus came to show us what God is like and to bring us to Him (John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18). Jesus talked about love and showed love and *lived* love all the time—and in the end He loved us enough to give His life to save us.

The greatest gift God has for you is eternal life in Heaven—also known as *salvation*, being *saved*, or being *born again*. You receive this gift the instant you believe that Jesus Christ is God’s Son and accept Him into your life.

None of us are perfect. We’re all sinners by nature, and our sins separate us from God (Isaiah 59:2). The only way we can be reconciled with God is if our sins are atoned for, and only Jesus—who was Himself perfect—could do that. Jesus gave His life “a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28). Jesus died so *all* could have eternal life, but He would have done it for you

alone. God loves you so much that He gave His only Son to die in your place, and Jesus loves you so much that He did that willingly.

God made salvation simple—so simple, in fact, that even a child could understand and receive it. All you have to do is admit that you've made mistakes and need God's forgiveness, accept in childlike faith His explanation that He sent Jesus to pay for your mistakes, and ask for forgiveness.

Would you like to know beyond a shadow of a doubt that Jesus Christ really is the Son of God and the way to salvation? Just try Him! If you haven't yet received Jesus as your Savior, you can do it right now by praying a short prayer like the following:

*Dear Jesus, thank You for dying for me so that all my mistakes and wrongs can be forgiven. I now open the door of my heart and ask You to come in. Please forgive me and give me Your free gift of eternal life. Amen.*

If you have prayed to receive Jesus, you can be assured that He heard and answered. You've taken the first step into a wonderful new life of love that will never end. (To gain a better understanding of salvation, see the readings listed under "Salvation" in the Index.)

### ***The new you***

Once you're saved, you can start enjoying many of the benefits immediately. Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17:21). If you have Jesus, the kingdom of God has already entered you. You can begin living in the continual heaven of His love, peace, and joy right here and now.

You can also expect some pretty big changes in yourself. You're a "new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Don't be surprised if you actually feel different, think differently, view the world differently, and are happier than you have ever been before. "I have come that you may have life," Jesus said, "and that you may have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

You may not be totally different—at least not right away—but you'll soon notice a change in your spirit, your thoughts, and the direction your life is going. As you begin to get your answers and spiritual strength from the Lord and His Word, things you never even dreamed possible will become possible. With His help, you will be able to overcome bad habits and personal weaknesses that you never could before.

You can't expect everything to always be easy or go your way, however. From the day you receive Jesus to the day you arrive in Heaven and see Him face to face, your spiritual life is an ongoing learning, growing, and maturing process. How much you change and how quickly you grow depends largely on how much you *desire* to change, how much you apply yourself to learning more about the Lord and His plan for your life, how far you are willing to go with Him, and how much you ask for His help and depend on Him when troubles come your way.

To help speed the growing process and ease the growing pains, *Daily Might* presents many basic and important principles from the Bible in understandable terms. If you're just getting started in your new life for the Lord, there are a few more things you'll need to know in order to get the most out of this book:

## ***Power up!***

You cannot become all you could be or all God wants you to be without His power, and the means of power that He has provided for you is the Holy Spirit.

John the Baptist told those who came to him in search of truth and reconciliation with God that Jesus would “baptize with the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 3:11). Jesus later promised His followers that He would “send the Promise of the Father” upon them, so they would be “endued with power from on high” (Luke 24:49). Acts chapter 2 recounts how they received the Holy Spirit shortly thereafter.

If you have received Jesus as your Savior, you have been “born again of the Spirit” (John 3:3–8) and have already received a little of that Holy Spirit power. But that doesn’t mean that you’ve received the full measure, or “baptism,” of the Holy Spirit. This is usually a separate experience that happens later (Acts 8:14–17; 19:2–6).

The Greek word translated as “baptize” in the New Testament is *baptizo*, which means to be fully covered or completely immersed. So to be “baptized in the Holy Spirit” means to be completely filled to overflowing with the Spirit of God. A glass of water makes a good illustration. If the glass has at least some water in it, you could say that it’s a glass of water, even though it’s not a full glass. Many Christians are like glasses with just a little water, a little bit of God’s Spirit. But those who have been baptized with the Holy Spirit are like glasses that have been filled to overflowing. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is such an infilling of power from on high that they cannot contain it all!

The infilling of the Holy Spirit, like salvation, is a gift of God. All you have to do to receive it is believe that it’s there for you

and ask for it. “Your heavenly Father [will] give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him” (Luke 11:13).

### ***Soul food—Nourishment and growth***

After being “born again” you are similar spiritually to what a newborn baby is like physically. You have a lot to learn and a lot of growing to do, so don’t be discouraged if you don’t understand everything all at once. The way to mature in faith and understanding of God’s ways and plan for your life is to “desire the pure milk of the Word [of God], that you may grow thereby” (1 Peter 2:2). Reading the Bible, *Daily Might*, and other Christian publications can help keep you healthy and strong spiritually and accelerate your spiritual growth.

### ***Spiritual warfare***

A fierce, continual battle is taking place in the unseen spiritual realm that surrounds us. It’s a spiritual battle of good against evil, a battle for our hearts and minds, which control our actions and destinies. God and His heavenly forces are fighting and defeating the Devil and his demons.

The battle carries over into our physical realm and involves us. “We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 6:12). The Devil is especially out to get Christians. If he can’t stop you from being a Christian, he will try to stop you from being an active, effective Christian. He will do everything he can to interfere with

your relationship with Jesus, stunt your spiritual growth, and hinder anything you try to do that would further the kingdom of God.

The Bible admonishes us to “fight the good fight of faith” (1 Timothy 6:12) and to not be ignorant of the Devil’s tactics (2 Corinthians 2:11). A number of the daily readings in *Daily Might* are devoted to helping you learn to recognize the Devil’s attacks so you can fight back and overcome them. You won’t be able to win every skirmish, but you’re on the winning side, and if you will stay close to your Commander in Chief and follow His instructions, you’ll have many more victories than losses.

### ***Heavenly communication*** **—*Conversing with God***

God loves you so much that He not only wants to communicate with you through His written Word, but also directly. Like the loving Father He is, He takes a personal interest in you and wants to be involved in your daily life. He knows that you have questions and problems, and He wants to give you the answers and solutions. He wants to speak personal words of love and encouragement to you that will boost your faith and get you through the rough times. Most of all, He wants you to know how much He loves you. So He created a means of two-way communication, a channel between Him and you, so that you can talk to Him in prayer and, in reply, hear words He gives especially for you. *Daily Might* will help you establish and maintain that line of two-way communication.

## ***Spread the good news***

Telling others about God's love and Jesus is known as “witnessing.” Just as children grow up and have children of their own, the born-again child of God should grow up to bear spiritual children, more saved souls for God's kingdom. This is the most important and satisfying job in the whole world—what has come to be known as the Great Commission: “Go into all the world and preach the Gospel [good news] to every creature” (Mark 16:15). Twenty-eight of the 366 daily readings in this book are devoted to helping you understand and fulfill that commission. (See “Witnessing” in the Index.)

The secret to sustained spiritual growth is spending time with Jesus every day, communicating with Him through prayer and learning from Him through the Word. May *Daily Might* help you toward that end and daily draw you closer to Him!



## We're in the best of hands.



**I** SAID TO THE MAN WHO STOOD AT THE GATE OF THE YEAR: 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.' And he replied: 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'<sup>1</sup>

We don't know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future. The things we need to know, the Lord tells us, and sometimes the things we *want* to know, He tells us, but most of the time He throws a veil over the future so it is known only to Him—and that really keeps us close to the Lord.

He's promised to never leave or forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). "I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20 KJV). He's also given us the torch of His Word to show us where our path is going. "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105).

I don't worry o'er the future,  
For I know what Jesus said;  
And today I'll walk beside Him,  
For He knows what lies ahead.

Many things about tomorrow,  
I don't seem to understand,  
But I know who holds tomorrow,  
And I know who holds my hand!<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Minnie Louise Haskins (1875–1957)

<sup>2</sup> Ira Stanphill (1914–1994)

## The best is yet to come!



**J**ESUS PROMISED HIS FOLLOWERS THAT THEY WOULD GO BEYOND WHAT EVEN HE HAD DONE. “He who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and *greater* works than these he will do” (John 14:12). And they did! Those He was speaking to at the time carried the Gospel much further than Jesus had been able to during His brief public ministry, and those they reached carried it even further—and it hasn’t stopped yet!

Why shouldn’t we also do “greater things”? The world population is greater, the need is greater, the opportunities are greater, and the means are far greater with the printed word, radio, television, air travel, the postal system, the Internet, and much, much more. We’ve got the greatest opportunities in history and all the means at our disposal. If we will stay close to Jesus, He will help us surmount whatever obstacles we may encounter, win victories, and accomplish His purposes in the coming year and always.

Of course, we should give all the credit and praise to Jesus because *He* will have done those great things through us. “May the God of peace ... make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever” (Hebrews 13:20–21).

**“Heaven and earth will pass away, but God’s words will by no means pass away” (Matthew 24:35).**



**I**N ESPECIALLY TRYING TIMES, WE NEED TO LIVE MORE IN THE WORD. We must put our faith in the Word. Then it wouldn’t matter if everybody in the whole world lost faith, or the whole world went haywire, or the heavens and earth passed away. We will keep going for God as long as our faith is in the Word. No matter what happens, we will still stand if our feet are planted on the firm foundation of God’s Word. I can fail, you can fail, the whole world can fail, but God’s Word will never fail!

Often if it weren’t for that tiny spark of faith, we would just flicker out. But when we tank up on God’s Word, we get re-inspired. God blows on our little ember of faith and brings it back to life again. It comes so much through taking in the Word. “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God” (Romans 10:17). His Word is always an encouragement, even when everything seems to be going wrong.

The Bible stands though the hills may tumble,  
It will firmly stand when the earth shall crumble;  
I will plant my feet on its firm foundation,  
For the Bible stands.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Haldor Lillenas (1885–1959).

## God is the only One who can give real meaning to living.



**S**O MANY PEOPLE TODAY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE. They don't know where they came from, who they are, or where they're going. They're in absolute confusion because they've lost touch with the only concrete frame of reference, and that's God and His plan for their life as explained in the Bible. They've either never had or lost faith in God, so therefore they lose faith in love and life and people—in everything!

But we who have found God's love in Jesus have found a God that cannot fail and a love that lasts forever. We know Him, whom to know is life eternal (John 17:3). We've been born again and now have an entirely new outlook on life. His coming into our lives not only purifies and regenerates our spirits, but also renews our minds, breaking old connections and reflexes and gradually rebuilding and rewiring it into a whole new computer system with new reactions to nearly everything around us.

Besides the wonderful happiness, life, and love that Jesus gives us, we've also found a real purpose in living and Someone to live for. We now find a thrill in our newfound faith, the greatest of satisfaction in our work for Jesus, and pleasure in the fellowship of our spiritual family.

## **The Word of God is like a map to help you find your way through life.**



**W**HILE TRAVELING ALONG A ROAD, you can only see what's ahead of you moment by moment. But if you'll look at the map and have faith in it, you can also see where the road came from, regardless of where you started out yourself. And even if you've never been to your final destination or traveled that road before, you can also know where the road ends. But if you don't take time to study the map, you could waste an awful lot of time or ruin your chances of getting to your destination at all.

You should no more try to find your own way through life than you should take a trip without a map. God can see it all. He not only knows where you are right now and where you came from, your present and your past, but He also knows the safest, surest, and most pleasant route to get you where you're going. Consult and follow the "Map Book," the Bible, and you will know too. Just as you must look at the map, believe that it's true, and follow it to get where you're going, if you will read God's Word, believe it, and follow it, you'll come out at Heaven. Absolutely! Without fail!

## If you sometimes feel like nothing, cheer up! God can use you.



**L**ITTLE IS MUCH IF GOD IS IN IT. In fact, God doesn't have to have *anything* to begin with. He made the world out of nothing (Hebrews 11:3). Pretty good old world, isn't it? He hung it on nothing (Job 26:7). Hangs pretty good, doesn't it? And He can make something out of nothing—even you—if you will let Him.

God doesn't go very much for bigness after the manner of this world. In fact, He specializes in using people who seem most likely *not* to succeed; yet by the miraculous power and grace of God they become shining lights to others. God only makes great people out of little people, to show *His* greatness (1 Corinthians 1:26–29).

Dare to trust Him in spite of yourself, and give Him all the credit when He does the miracle—what you couldn't do. If you can believe in God, everything is possible, because He makes everything out of nothing. We're all nothing and can do nothing good of ourselves (Galatians 6:3; John 15:5). God is like the circle around the nothing that makes it something. With God all around you, even your nothing can be something. In fact, you can be almost anything!

## You don't have to understand God in order to love Him.



**N**O ONE CAN EVER FULLY UNDERSTAND GOD. It's impossible because, as He says, His ways are far above our own. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:9). Forget trying to figure out God! Just accept His love by faith.

Jesus tried to make it simple. He said, "Unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of Heaven" (Matthew 18:3). What baby or little child understands all about his mother or father, or how he was born, or all about life? Yet he is instinctively attuned to the most profound thing in the world—love. He feels his parents' love and receives it and responds with love.

The Bible tells us that "God is Spirit" (John 4:24) and "God is love" (1 John 4:8). He's the very Spirit of love in your heart. It's impossible to fully understand God and His love, but it is possible to receive His love and to love Him in return. Making a personal connection with the God of love is so simple that many people can't believe it. It's just a matter of asking in faith and receiving.