



To This End: The Power of Others

April 6th, 2025

Anyone who doesn't need company is either greater than a man, and is a God, or lesser than a man, and is a beast. – Aristotle

And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and *helped him find strength in God.*

1 Samuel 23:16

Think how you have instructed many, how you have *strengthened feeble hands*. Your words have *supported those who stumbled*; you have *strengthened faltering knees*.

Job 4:3-4

"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. *But I have prayed for you, Simon, so that your faith may not fail.*"

Luke 22:31-32

An *unexamined* life is an *ineffective* life. When we find the courage to look inside without allowing the filters of self-protection and self-preservation to blind us, *it opens up a vista to personal growth that we never thought possible*. The path toward *increasing our greatest impact* begins with honestly acknowledging our inability to see ourselves clearly. Steve Saccone, *Relational Intelligence*

The worst thing you can do is to create a *matched* community, an inner circle of people *who see life exactly as you do*. Leonard Sweet, 11

Joab was told, "The king is weeping and mourning for Absalom." And for the whole army *the victory that day was turned into mourning*, because on that day the troops heard it said, "The king is grieving for his son." The men stole into the city that day as men steal in *who are ashamed when they flee from battle*. The king covered his face and cried aloud, "O my son Absalom! O Absalom, my son, my son!" Then Joab *went into the house* to the king and said, "Today you have humiliated all your men, who have just saved your life and the lives of your sons and daughters and the lives of your wives and concubines. You love those who hate you and hate those who love you. You have made it clear today that the commanders and their men mean nothing to you. I see that you would be pleased if Absalom were alive today and all of us were dead. Now go out and encourage your men. I swear by the Lord that if you don't go out, not a man will be left with you by nightfall. *This will be worse for you than all the calamities that have come upon you from your youth till now.*" So the king got up and took his seat in the gateway. When the men were told, "The king is sitting in the gateway," they all came before him.

2 Samuel 19:1-8

“My growing conviction is that all substantial change depends on people experiencing a certain kind of relationship.” Larry Crabb, The Safest Place On Earth

Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

Proverbs 27:6

Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things GROW UP into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

Ephesians 4:15