

faith

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WISDOM AND WORKS OF MERCY



The 'strong,' silent type



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So many men today walk around as if they have it all figured out and don't have a problem in the world. The "strong," silent type, if you will. I know this for a fact. I used to do the same thing. So much of my life was spent walking like a one-man army, convincing myself that I didn't need anybody or anything.

That's what the world, the flesh and the devil would have you believe. They fill your head full of lies and trick you into thinking that it is weak to have feelings or problems, or to admit that you don't have a clue as to what you are doing in this life. This plays right into the devil's hands because it allows him to keep men on the sidelines and out of the game. Instead of being the men that we were created to be, we waste away in isolation and addictions. We remain immature, selfish boys who fill our time trying to avoid our issues by drinking to deal with work stress, watching porn to deal with loneliness, experimenting with drugs, among countless other things, all the while withdrawing further and further from our faith, family and friends. Does this sound like strength to you? It sure as heck doesn't to me. I know it doesn't to God. In fact, in Corinthians 12:9, God tells Paul "power is made perfect in weakness." You see, to God, strength is found in exposing

your weaknesses. We become vulnerable when we expose our shortcomings to Him and those around us. Vulnerability is where change begins to happen. When we admit to God, ourselves and our peers what we are struggling with in life, we take away all power and hold the devil has over us. No longer can he whisper in our ear that we aren't good enough, that people will hate us or that we will lose everything. We render him powerless over us. We once again become clay, which, in the hands of the Potter, can begin to be molded into His original grand design. We become free. We can finally experience the peace that God desires for us. We can truly begin to live. So take a good look at what's holding you back. Find a group of brothers to become weak with. Follow in St. Paul's footsteps and become "content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions and constraints, for the sake of Christ; for when you are weak, then you are strong." (2 Cor 12:10) †