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Wilson, Debbie W. Little Strength, Big God. Abilene, TX: Leafwood Publishers, 2023.

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Book Review

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Debbie W. Wilson, a former teacher, counselor, and leader with Campus Crusade for Christ, offers insightful and fundamental examples from the Bible in her newest book, Little Strength, Big God. Her work illuminates stories and characters from the Bible and how God worked in each of their lives, giving them strength to overcome life's challenges and oppression. Wilson retells the stories of Biblical figures such as Deborah, Daniel, Moses, Samuel, and Rahab in a modern, evocative, and illustrative way that allows the reader to visualize the events. She then ties in examples from her time counseling young people to assist the reader in relating the story to their lives. Wilson uses these accounts to demonstrate that even when struggles are great, and one's strength is small, God uses circumstances and people as conduits for his will.

Wilson's work is written as a reflection on the men and women listed in Hebrews 11:23-40. The book's title refers to Hebrews 11:34: "whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle." This work is a companion text to Wilson's previous book, Little Faith, Big God. The text is organized as an eight-week study and devotional plan. Each week contains five days of readings with questions for reflection. In addition, each week focuses on new figures from the Bible and includes opportunities for further scripture reading, prayer, and meditation on God's word. There is also practical advice given for the reader to reframe their hardships and problems. Each devotion challenges the reader to deepen their faith and trust in God's provision. Wilson's evaluation is evangelical in nature with a strong emphasis on historical context. Additionally, she shares anecdotes from young women she has counseled who struggled with unplanned pregnancy, abortion, and mental health challenges. Even though some of Wilson's personal examples are brief and seemingly arbitrarily used, they add perspective to the theme of each week.

Little Strength, Big God would be ideal for Bible Study groups that meet weekly, as the lessons are manageable and encourage discussion. The book's content is not rigorous or scholarly, lending itself to be easily understood and read. It is a recommended book for public or academic libraries wanting to offer material to Bible Study groups or individuals who want a guided devotional to deepen their faith.

Reviewer

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