

Defying the bully

Various texts April 3, 2016



Heb 2.14-15: *Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.*

I. Punch One: Don't deny

1. Don't self protect

Rom 12.15: *Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.*

2. Don't chatter

James 1.19: *My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak (and slow to become angry)....,*

3. Don't minimize

1 Cor 15.26: *The last enemy to be destroyed is death.*

App 1:



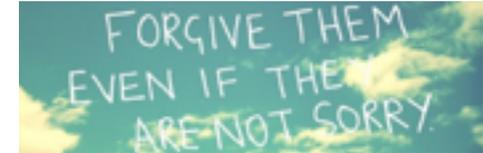
II. Punch Two: Do defy

1. With wisdom and obedience

Ps 90.12: *Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.*

2. With forgiveness and mercy

Mt 6.14-15: *For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.*



Mt 5.23-25:

Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift. Settle matters quickly with your adversary...

3. With dependence and trust

1 John 5.4-5: *...for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.*

4. With hope and confidence

Col 1.3-5: *We always thank God, ... because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints — the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven....,*



5. With Jesus - Mt 28.20: *And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*