

## Developing a Sweet Habit 004

Hello again.

I'm so glad you came back.

I am Steven Baldridge, Pastor Rome Community Church and we are Developing a Sweet Habit.

In lesson one we saw how God's word is sweet and to be savored.

We have also seen that developing a habit takes time and persistence.

Before we move on, begin the day as we do each day.

On a clean page in your notebook right today's day and date.

Then for one more day, hand write Psalm 119:103.

Then right 2 Thessalonians 3:13.

Finally, write our current basis versus - 2 Timothy 2:1-2.

Last time we dove into the word strengthen, strength, and strong using the concordance to find verses that expand upon the idea in 2 Timothy 2.

Today I want to show you one other tool I use from time to time.

If you have an electronic Bible app, a Bible dictionary, or a Strong's concordance, find 2 Timothy 2:1.

When I highlight the verse (in the app) I see choices for cross references, concordance, and intralinear. Interlinear is what we are looking for.

From here I can scroll down to the word translated "be strong" or "strengthen."

This word has its own a number. In this case the Strong's number is **G1743**.

If you have a printed Strong's concordance you can also look it up by the number.

Your Study Bible may also have simply the Strong's four digit number in the text of the verse.

As we saw last time, some words have short concise definitions and only one or two possible English words to translate it from the Greek.

If I find an extended definition I sometimes use these different words or phrases in the base Bible verse.

For example:

*Be strong* in the grace that is in Jesus Christ.

*With strength* by the grace that is in Jesus Christ.

*Be bold* (be careful with this one, it does not mean to be arrogant or abrasive).

*Be bold* in the grace that is in Jesus Christ.

Along the same vein, *be headstrong* in the grace that is in Jesus Christ.

Each of these phrases is a possible substitute for “be strengthened”. This is another way for me to restate the verse *without drifting away from the original text*.

There is one translation that does this to an overwhelming degree.

The Amplified Bible. I have not researched any reviews for the amplified Bible, but while this can be helpful in some cases, it does become laborious and hard to follow for regular reading. (If you have access to one see what you think)

Your assignment for the rest of the day is to dig into 2 Timothy 2:2.

Write it. Choose important words, phrases, and ideas.

Follow whatever concordance leads you have available.

Follow the Strong’s concordance and any expanded definitions you have available.

This is your *working* document, not a *finished* document.

I often write a verse, pausing after any word or phrase, and add my own thoughts and paraphrases, the same way I sometimes read aloud.

One last instruction before the close of this lesson.

(Next time I will show you what I do with commentaries, aside from simply reading them.)

Take as many days as you need to cover what we have started so far, and if you have any other passages you want to follow, please do so. When do you have time, come back and join me in lesson five. But please, for your own growth in the Scriptures, continue to Developing a Sweet Habit.