



You Know How to Act

NorthRidge Church

Pastor Harold Butler

February 22, 2026

Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. – 1 Corinthians 16:13 (ESV)

You Know How to Act ...

It is impossible for men to act like men without the life-giving spirit of Jesus directing our path.

- _____ ... *remain watchful*
1 Peter 5:8, Matthew 24:42-44
- _____
Galatians 5:1, 1 Thessalonians 3:8

The _____ of not standing will far exceed
the _____ of standing. – 1 Samuel 3:10-13
- _____ ... *Quit acting like a kid*
1 Corinthians 3:1, 13:11, 2 Peter 3:18
- _____ ... *be strong inwardly*
Luke 1:80

A Man who Knows How to Act ...

1. _____
Hebrews 11:24, Philippians 2:5-9
2. _____
John 4:34
3. _____
1 Samuel 17

Jesus led courageously by providing:

- _____ – Matthew 4:19
- _____ – John 10:11
- _____ – 1 Corinthians 15:45

4. _____
Matthew 6:19-20

Summary... What is keeping you from being alert, taking a stand, acting like a man and being strong? What would be different in your life if you acted the way you know how to act?

Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

PSALM 20: INTERCESSION AND VICTORY

The context of Psalm 20 is that King David was preparing for a big battle. Many are battling their own wars today—waging war against strongholds and addictions, fighting for marriages, and so much more. Think of those in Celebrate Recovery. Think of those who are battling quietly with unspoken struggles. Psalm 20 can be a great pattern for prayer!

KING DAVID WENT TO THE SYNAGOGUE PRIOR TO BATTLE. PEOPLE GATHERED TO PRAY FOR HIM! (v 1-4)

May the one going into “battle” go to a source of help—people gathered to seek the Lord on their behalf. May we pray for others just as the people prayed for King David...

- Lord, (someone) is fighting (this battle). **Answer** them in the day of trouble and when they cry out for help.
- God of Jacob, defend (this person). **Send help! Strengthen** (him) with Your strength!
It is so easy to read “God of Jacob” without realizing the significance of this name of God. Think back to Jacob’s character before his name was changed to Israel. He was a conniver and deceitful. “God of Jacob” depicts the power of God to change and renew a life because of a struggle. It signifies God’s role in protecting people who are flawed. Oh, God of Jacob...defend and protect!
- Let the sacrifices already given by this person move You, Lord, to fulfill Your promises.
- Grant this person’s desires and fulfill all Your purpose! Help him delight in You so his desires will come to align with YOUR desires.

DAVID REFLECTED AND EXPANDED ON THE PEOPLES’ PRAYERS. (v5-8)

- The Lord saves those who He has anointed. He will answer with the saving might and strength of His right hand.
- Some trust in chariots and some in horses. *(Today some trust in their finances, traditions, knowledge, or possessions. Some trust in people or experts.) See also, Isaiah 31:1*
- But WE will actively recall the attributes of the LORD our God. WE will actively rely on God and surrender according to His will.)

THEN THEY ALL PRAYED. (v 9)

- Oh, Lord, save (this person)! Bring victory! Defend, deliver, and preserve the lives of those who are in the battle. Answer them when they call.



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You Know How to Act ...

It is impossible for men to act like men without the life-giving spirit of Jesus directing our path.

- **Wake Up ... remain watchful!**
1 Peter 5:8, Matthew 24:42-44

- **Stand Up**
Galatians 5:1, 1 Thessalonians 3:8

The **Cost** of not standing will far exceed the **Cost** of standing. – 1 Samuel 3:10-13

- **Grow Up ... Quit acting like a kid!**
1 Corinthians 3:1, 13:11, 2 Peter 3:18

- **Pray Up ... be strong inwardly!**
Luke 1:80

A Man who Knows How to Act ...

1. **Resists Passivity**
Hebrews 11:24, Philippians 2:5-9

2. **Accepts Responsibility**
John 4:34

3. **Leads Courageously**
1 Samuel 17

Jesus led courageously by providing:

- **Direction** – Matthew 4:19
- **Protection** – John 10:11
- **Life** – 1 Corinthians 15:45

4. **Invests Eternally**

Matthew 6:19-20

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Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

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