

THE STRONG ONE

Who Checks on Her?

Dear Friend,

Thank you for requesting my weekly Letter of Encouragement.

There is often one woman in every family whom everyone depends upon.

She remembers the birthdays, makes the telephone calls, prepares the meals, settles disagreements and steps forward when something needs to be done. She has carried others for so many years that everyone assumes she can carry herself.

But what happens when the strong one begins to need somebody?

Sometimes, when a capable woman starts calling more often or feels hurt when she is not included, others may call her "needy." But what appears to be neediness may actually be grief, loneliness or the fear that she no longer matters now that people do not depend upon her as they once did.

There is a difference between being needed and being wanted.

We need someone because of what she does for us. We want someone because her presence matters to us.

God never intended care to move in only one direction. First Corinthians 12:25 says:

"That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another."

- 1 Corinthians 12:25 KJV

The same care - one for another.

If you have always been the strong one, needing companionship does not erase your strength. But the people who love you may not understand what you need unless you tell them plainly.

Perhaps you can say:

"I have been feeling lonely. Could we plan some time together?"

And if this letter brings a strong woman to mind, please do not assume someone else is checking on her.

Call her. Invite her. Stay on the telephone a little longer.

She may have spent a lifetime making certain everyone else knew they mattered. Perhaps today, you can remind her that she matters too.

With love and encouragement,

Angela F. Everly

Unfading Beauty

FACE | BODY | SOUL

Beauty Formed by God | 1 Peter 3:3-4