

*But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (NIV)*

## **Power**

Well, this is certainly good news. **What is good news?** It is good news that your power is made perfect in my weakness. I take that to mean that your power and glory are best seen when you are doing in and through me what I could never have done on my own. Everyone, including me, will know that you have done in and through me what only you could have done. **That's right.** In that way you will receive all the praise and honor and glory. **That's true.**

**Let's talk more about this.** I'm listening. **Knowing what you know, what can you expect from me?** I can expect you to give me assignments that I cannot accomplish with my own efforts alone. **Why is that?** You want me to come to rely on you. You want me to live in an intimate relationship with you. You want me to ask you for your help. You want to work in and through my weakness. **Yes, I do.**

**What attitude must you have when I ask you to go and do something for me?** I must have an attitude of faith to believe that you will make me able to do whatever you ask of me. **What will happen to you as you go and do what I ask of you?** I will come to know you more intimately as I rely on you. I will grow in my faith in you as I allow you to accomplish in and through me what I could have never done by myself. **Yes, you will.**

**What will be the result of your allowing me to work in and through you?** I will be an instrument in your hands. Your work will be accomplished. Your purposes and plans will be fulfilled. People will be drawn to you. Lives will be changed. Others will turn away from their life without you. Others will turn to follow you as their Savior and Lord. I will be able to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. I will store up treasure in heaven with you. One day I will hear you say, "Well done, good and faithful servant." **Yes, you will.**

**Will you do what I ask you? Will you take on the assignments I give you? Will you allow me to work in and through you?** Yes, I will. **That will be very good.**

*Lord, I have plenty of room for you to operate in my life. I have many weaknesses in which your power can be on display through my life. Thank you for being strong when I am weak. Thank you for making me able to bear much fruit for your kingdom and glory Amen*

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Perfect In Weakness*

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

NIV 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Best In Weakness*

Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

NLT 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Perfect In Weakness*

but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

NRSV 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Perfect ...In Weakness*

But He said to me, My grace (My favor and loving-kindness and mercy) is enough for you [sufficient against any danger and enables you to bear the trouble manfully]; for My strength and power are made perfect (fulfilled and completed) and show themselves most effective in [your] weakness. Therefore, I will all the more gladly glory in my weaknesses and infirmities, that the strength and power of Christ (the Messiah) may rest (yes, may pitch a tent over and dwell) upon me! So for the sake of Christ, I am well pleased and take pleasure in infirmities, insults, hardships, persecutions, perplexities and distresses; for when I am weak [in human strength], then am I [truly] strong (able, powerful in divine strength).

AMP 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Perfected In Weakness*

And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

NASB 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Perfect In Weakness*

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

ESV 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Perfect In Weakness*

And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

NKJV 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Strength... In Weakness*

and then he told me, My grace is enough; it's all you need. My strength comes into its own in your weakness. Once I heard that, I was glad to let it happen. I quit focusing on the handicap and began appreciating the gift. It was a case of Christ's strength moving in on my weakness. Now I take limitations in stride, and with good cheer, these limitations that cut me down to size—abuse, accidents, opposition, bad breaks. I just let Christ take over! And so the weaker I get, the stronger I become.

MSG 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Best In Weak People*

Each time he said, "No. But I am with you; that is all you need. My power shows up best in weak people." Now I am glad to boast about how weak I am; I am glad to be a living demonstration of Christ's power, instead of showing off my own power and abilities. Since I know it is all for Christ's good, I am quite happy about "the thorn," and about insults and hardships, persecutions and difficulties; for when I am weak, then I am strong—the less I have, the more I depend on him.

TLB 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Perfect In You*

But he said to me, "My grace is enough for you. When you are weak, my power is made perfect in you." So I am very happy to brag about my weaknesses. Then Christ's power can live in me. For this reason I am happy when I have weaknesses, insults, hard times, sufferings, and all kinds of troubles for Christ. Because when I am weak, then I am truly strong.

NCV 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

# Perfect In Weakness

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Becoming Like Christ** – 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

**In Context:** *Read 2 Corinthians 12*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

But he said | to me, | "My grace | is sufficient | for you, | for | my power | is made perfect | in weakness." | Therefore | I will boast | all the more gladly | about my weaknesses, | so that | Christ's power | may rest | on me. | That is why, | for Christ's sake, | I delight in weaknesses, | in insults, | in hardships, | in persecutions, | in difficulties. | For when | I am weak, | then | I am strong.  
2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (NIV)

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**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I have plenty of room for you to operate in my life. I have many weaknesses in which your power can be on display through my life. Thank you for being strong when I am weak. Thank you for making me able to bear much fruit for your kingdom and glory Amen

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**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

When have you been paralyzed because of your own perceived weakness?

**Why can you anticipate that the Lord will frequently ask you to do what is beyond your strength?**

When have you been very reluctant to go and do the difficult assignment the Lord gave you?

**How has taking on a difficult assignment helped you to know that the Lord was working through you?**

How has God received honor and glory as He did in and through you what you alone could not have done?

How have you been able to bear fruit for God's kingdom because you allowed Him to work in and through you?

**Why will you never regret allowing the Lord to work in and through your weakness?**

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**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Rely on God to work in and though in spite of your weakness so you can bear fruit for His kingdom and glory.

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**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord's power will best be on display in and through your weakness.

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**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how God has worked in and through you in spite your weakness.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you allow God to work in and through you in spite of your weakness.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will allow you to work in and through me in spite of my weakness.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how do you want to work in and through my weakness?*

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