

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)

Your Power

You feel weak quite often don't you? I'm not exactly sure what you mean. **You feel unable to do what I am calling you to do, isn't that right?** Yes, that is right. **It's not all bad that you feel weak.** Why is that? **What's the alternative?** The opposite of feeling weak is feeling strong. **You would much rather feel strong than weak, isn't that true?** Yes, that's true. **Would you rather that I gave you easier assignments? Would that make you feel stronger? Would you only like to do tasks for me that were easy to accomplish?** That sounds boring to me. **That's what I knew you would say.**

What has happened to you when I have given you a difficult assignment? My first reaction has been to feel weak and unable to do what you have asked me to do. Sometimes, I have tried to duck the assignment by asking to do something else that was easier. **How has that worked out for you?** You have not usually let me off the hook. You have continued to give me the difficult assignment. **What has been your second reaction?** Once I have said yes to you, I then begin to pray and ask for your help. **Yes, that's very good. So, would you say that your weakness has caused you to rely on my strength?** Yes, that's exactly what I would say. **Isn't that a very good thing?** Yes, it is. **If I gave you only easy tasks to do for me, who would you rely on for your strength?** I would rely on myself. **That's not good is it?** No, it is not.

When my power works through your weakness what happens? I am then able to bear an abundance of fruit for you. **Who gets the glory for the fruit that I bear in and through your life?** All the fruit that I bear is for your kingdom and your glory. People know that only your power working in and through me has accomplished what you have given me to do. **Yes, that's right. Would people see me working in and through your life in the very easy and boring tasks that you have sometimes wanted to do for me?** No, they would not.

What has happened to your faith as I have worked powerfully in and through your weakness? My faith in you has grown as I have seen you do in and through me what only you could have done. **Would your faith in me grow if I gave you only easy tasks to do for me?** No, it would not.

Can you see that your weakness provides an opportunity for me to work in and through your life? Your weakness makes you rely on me. Your weakness helps you to bear more fruit for me. Your weakness allows your life to be a clearer and brighter witness for me. What do you think about your weakness now? My weakness allows your power to be on display in and through my life. **Yes, it does.** So, I thankful that I am weak and you are strong. **That's very good.**

Lord, I have so many weaknesses. You have so many different ways that you can powerfully work in and through my life for your glory. I will rely on you and your strength to enable me to do whatever you call me to do for you. Amen

Promises*Christ's Power*

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

Promises*Power Of Christ*

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

Promises*Power Of Christ*

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

Promises*Power Of Christ*

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

Promises*Power Of Christ*

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

Promises*Power Of Christ*

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

Promises*Power Of Christ*

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

Promises*Christ's Strength*

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

Promises*Christ's Power*

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

Promises*Christ's Power*

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

Christ's Power

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Promises – 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)

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

Lord, I have so many weaknesses. You have so many different ways that you can powerfully work in and through my life for your glory. I will rely on you and your strength to enable me to do whatever you call me to do for you. Amen

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

What weaknesses do you have that you would like to acknowledge to the Lord?

Why is it important to know your own weaknesses and acknowledge them to the Lord?

Why will the Lord never allow you to be strong enough to not need to rely on Him?

Why will the Lord frequently call you to do what you are unable to do with your own strength alone?

Who gets the glory when God does something powerful in and through an area of your weakness?

When have you asked God to work in and through you in spite of all your weaknesses?

How has your faith in God grown as you have relied on Him to work in and through your weaknesses?

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

Rely on God to work in and through your life in spite of all your weaknesses so that He will be glorified.

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

Have faith that the Lord will work in and through your life in spite of all your weaknesses.

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

Share with another person or your small group how God has powerfully worked in and through your weaknesses.

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?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

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

In your weakness may you allow the power of Christ to work in and through you.

Prayer To Carry

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

Lord, I welcome your power to work in and through my weakness.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I allow your power to work through my weakness today?
