

How much more do I need to say? It would take too long to recount the stories of the faith of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and all the prophets. By faith these people overthrew kingdoms, ruled with justice, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of lions, quenched the flames of fire, and escaped death by the edge of the sword. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became strong in battle and put whole armies to flight. Hebrews 11:32-34 (NLT)

Weaknesses

You have them. You have ignored them. You have tried to deny them. But you can't get around or go over them. You would be insufferable and proud and arrogant without them. If you did not have them, you would almost certainly rely on yourself rather than on me. You have piqued my interest. You have gotten my attention. I am listening attentively to you. What are we talking about here? **You have weaknesses.** Yes, I do, of that I have no doubts. Let be clear about this, I have not been happy with all my having weaknesses. You are correct. I have ignored my weaknesses. I have tried to deny my weaknesses. I have tried to get around or go over them. I have asked you to remove them. Asked, is too mild of a word. I have begged for you to remove my weaknesses. Yet, here they are and here they remain. **Would you rely on me if you had no weaknesses? Would you ask for my help if you had no weakness? Would your faith in me grow stronger if it was only you accomplishing my purposes and fulfilling my plans? Would you ever ask for anyone's help if you could go and do my will without my or anyone else's help? Is there any chance that you wouldn't become insufferably proud and arrogant if you never needed help? Would you even want to go and do my will if there will no limits to what you could do? Is there any chance that I would receive any honor and glory if all your work depended solely on you? What do you think?** I think that you have asked me a lot of questions. But I do get your point. Instead of resenting my weaknesses, I would do well to give thanks for them. My weaknesses have kept me coming to you. My weaknesses have caused me to keep on relying on you. My weaknesses have helped keep my life on track. **How so?** How far can I drift away from you when I desperately need your help? Not far, is the answer and for that I am grateful and thankful to you. Thank you, that I have weakness that cause me to rely on you rather than on myself. Thank you that I have been able to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name because you have worked in and through my weaknesses. I now see that my weaknesses are a gift from you. **You are wise to come to understand that your weaknesses are a gift from me. I will keep on working in and through your weaknesses.** Thank you, Lord.

Lord, I am so very weak. In my own strength, under my own power, with all my efforts, I can accomplish nothing. I almost said next to nothing. But nothing is the right word. Work in and through my weakness to accomplish your purposes for your glory alone. Amen

Weakness Was Turned To Strength

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Promises – Hebrews 11:32-34

In Context: *Read Hebrews 11*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

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

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

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

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

When has your weakness caused you to rely on God rather than yourself?

How has your weakness kept you from becoming proud and arrogant?

When has your weakness caused you to ask others for help?

When has God been able to accomplish great things even through your weakness?

How has God received honor and glory because of what He alone could do through your weakness?

How has God working through your weakness filled you with gratitude and thanksgiving?

How has your faith in God grown as He did through you what you never could have done by yourself?

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

Allow God to work through your weaknesses to accomplish His purposes and fulfill His plans.

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

Have faith that God will work through your weakness to accomplish His purposes and fulfill His plans.

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

Share with another person or your small group how you are relying on God rather than yourself to do His work.

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?)

May you allow the Lord to work through your weakness.

Prayer To Carry

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

Lord, I will allow you to work 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 do you want to work through my weakness today?
