

The Weak Become Strong

By Cindy Buntin

*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. 2 Corinthians 12:9*

In the verses preceding this one, the apostle Paul had pleaded with the Lord three times to remove a thorn in his flesh. He referred to this thorn as a messenger of Satan, given to torment him and keep him from becoming conceited because of the great revelations God had given him. I am sure God's answer was not what Paul wanted to hear, but Paul's response was very surprising - not at all what we would expect to hear. When was the last time you boasted about your weaknesses or were thankful for a "thorn in your flesh?"

I have struggled with perfectionism for most of my life and I do not like to admit to myself that I have weaknesses. So, to boast about my weaknesses to others does not come naturally for me. Why does Paul gladly boast about his weaknesses? The last part of this verse gives the reason - so that Christ's power would rest on him.

Would you like to experience Christ's power in and through your life? The first step to experiencing Christ's power in our lives is through admitting our weaknesses, realizing that we are nothing without Christ. When we try to accomplish things in our own strength, Christ's power will not be visible in our lives.

The next step is to ask God to give us His strength and power to accomplish the things He has set before us to do. Is there something God has asked you to do that you do not believe is possible?

I am facing a task that God has called me to do, and which I have agreed to do, but am feeling totally inadequate to do it successfully. I have admitted I cannot do the task on my own and have asked God to give me His strength and power to accomplish it. I can say with complete confidence that the task God has given me to do will not only be accomplished, but Christ's power will be seen through it. *I can do everything through Him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13*

I can be confident because God does not call us to do something for Him and then leave us to do it on our own. He wants us to realize our limitations and then rely on Him and His power to accomplish the task through us. When we do this, others will see the power of Christ working in us and through us. Christ will be glorified and our faith will increase as we see God's power accomplishing what we saw as impossible to do in our own strength.

What weaknesses do you need to embrace to let God's glory be shown in your life? Where do you need to stop struggling against something God is asking you to do and instead trust Him and His power to get you through it?

I encourage you to boast about your weaknesses so that Christ's strength may rest on you!

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