

IN THE FIRE – PART V
“Strength Through Weakness”
2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Nobody likes to admit that they have weaknesses. People don't like to talk about things they don't do well. We would rather talk about things that we are good at and come easy to us. However, it is through our weaknesses that God's power becomes evident. Paul boasted in his shortcomings because he realized they become a channel for God's power. In today's teaching, we will see how God's power is channeled through human frailty.

#1. GOD USES OUR SUFFERING TO KEEP US HUMBLE, v. 7

- A. God gave him the thorn in the flesh
- B. God sent a messenger of Satan to torment Paul
- C. God knew Paul was prone to be prideful

#2. GOD USES OUR SUFFERING TO DRAW US TO HIMSELF, v. 8

- A. God said no to Paul's three prayers
- B. God said no because Paul needed the thorn

#3. GOD USES OUR SUFFERING TO GIVE US GRACE, v. 9a

- A. God gave greater grace
- B. God gave him a thorn as a gift
- C. God's Grace is sufficient in all circumstances

#4. GOD USES OUR SUFFERING TO DISPLAY HIS POWER, v. 9b

- A. Our weaknesses become the channel for God's power
- B. Our weaknesses cause us to rely on God
- C. Our weaknesses become the proof that God's power is at work in us, 2 Cor 4:7, 16

#5. GOD USES OUR SUFFERING AS A MEANS TO GLORIFY CHRIST, v. 9c-10

- A. Weaknesses are not something we boast about
 - B. Weaknesses cause Christ's power to rest on us
 - C. Boast in weaknesses
 - D. Boast in insults
 - E. Boast in hardships
 - F. Boast in persecutions
 - G. Boast in difficulties
 - H. Because - When we are weak we are strong in Christ
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#1. Discuss the background to this passage

#2. For what reason(s) should people be wary about judging one's spiritual maturity on visions, dreams, revelations and other ecstatic experiences?

#3. For what reason(s) did God give Paul the thorn in the flesh?

#4. What was the thorn in the flesh?

#5. What was the messenger of Satan?

#6. In what sense was the thorn a gift to Paul from God?

#7. Why is God's grace sufficient for all of life's circumstances?

#8. How do human weaknesses become a channel for God's power?

#9. Why should we boast in our weaknesses and other hardships?

#10. What is your takeaway from this teaching?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRUNK OR TREAT - HALLOWEEN OUTREACH

Tonight is our FALL FESTIVAL at 6:30 - 8:00. We will have Trunk or Treat in the parking lot, candy, prizes and food. Invite your friends to stop in. **CANDY DONATIONS** can be dropped off in the designated area by the entrance.

JOIN US ONLINE FOR

Tuesday Bible study at 6:30, Wednesday study & Prayer at 6:30. [SEP] Click the "online meeting room" link on the home page of the website Hillcrestroseville.com

YOGA FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Every Saturday at 10:00 taught by pastor Bruce.

HELP WITH MEDIA

If you would like to help with the sound system and/or media please let Aaron, Johanna, or DJ know and we can train you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our offering box is in the back of the sanctuary. You can place your tithes and offerings there, or you can visit our website and give online (hillcrestroseville.com). Thank you for supporting the gospel ministry of Hillcrest Church.

WORSHIP PRACTICE IS AT 7PM

LUNCHEON AFTER CHURCH

November 14 Hillcrest will honor our police officers and firemen.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

December 19th after the service

Welcome

To

Hillcrest Church!

GIVING GOD OUR BEST – 2021!

My grace is sufficient for you, for my power
is made perfect in weakness

2 Corinthians 12:9

October 31, 2021

Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD