

2020 PRAYER, FASTING, & CONSECRATION WEEK

AMAZING GRACE

#ENFAST2020

#AMAZINGGRACE2020

SUFFICIENT GRACE

2 Corinthians 12 : 7 - 10

7 So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited.

8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.

2 Corinthians 12 : 7 - 10

9 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.

10 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.



If we were **strong**
on our own

1. If we were strong, we might **return the insult with such force** that the opponent would wither and everyone would admire our wit and cleverness
2. If we were strong, we might **take charge of our own fortune and turn back the emerging hardship** and change circumstances so that they go the way we want them to and not force us into discomfort

3. If we were strong, we might **turn back the persecution** so quickly and so decisively that no one would mess with us again

4. If we were strong, we might **use our resources to get out of the calamity** or distress as fast as possible



Blessings in being
WEAK

1. Weakness prevents us from being **conceited**

2 Corinthians 12 : 7

7 So to keep me from becoming **conceited** because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited.

32,000 vs 135,000

32,000 vs 135,000

1 vs 4.2

Judges 7 : 2

2 The Lord said to Gideon, “The people with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel **boast over me**, saying, ‘My own hand has saved me.’

10,000 vs 135,000

10,000 vs 135,000

1 vs 13.5

300 vs 135,000

300 vs 135,000

1 vs 450

Judges 7 : 7

7 And the Lord said to Gideon, “With the 300 men who lapped **I will** save you and give the Midianites into your hand, and let all the others go every man to his home.”

A
TRUMPET



A
PITCHER



AND A
TORCH



2. Weakness draws us **closer** to God

2 Corinthians 12 : 8

8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.

3. Weakness allows us to experience God's **comfort**

2 Corinthians 12 : 8

8 **Three times** I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.

2 Corinthians 12 : 9

9 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.

2 Corinthians 11 : 23 -28

- worked much harder
- been in prison more frequently
- been flogged more severely
- been exposed to death again and again
- Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one.
- Three times I was beaten with rods

2 Corinthians 11 : 23 -28

- once I was pelted with stones
- three times I was shipwrecked
- I spent a night and a day in the open sea
- been constantly on the move
- been in danger from rivers
- in danger from bandits
- in danger from my fellow Jews

2 Corinthians 11 : 23 -28

- in danger from Gentiles
- in danger in the city
- in danger in the country
- in danger at sea
- in danger from false believers
- I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep

2 Corinthians 11 : 23 -28

- I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food
- I have been cold and naked
- I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.

A man and a child are walking away from the camera on a sandy beach. The man is on the left, wearing a dark jacket and blue jeans, holding the hand of the child on the right. The child is wearing a blue jacket and dark pants. The background shows the ocean and a sunset sky with a warm orange glow. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

There is something **better** than relief: grace.
Paul wanted relief; God gave him **grace**.



God's grace
is sufficient for me

2 Corinthians 12 : 9

9 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.

4. Weakness produces **contentment**

2 Corinthians 12 : 10

10 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.





1. **Acknowledge**

it's not relying on our own strength to endure.
have a community, be #bettertogether

2. **Hold On**

Hold on to God's word, #stayhungry

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