

There Is Purpose in Your Pain (Bible Study)

Scripture:

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 NKJV ([You can use the translation that you are most comfortable reading.](#))

⁷ And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. ⁸ Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ 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.

Discussion Points:

1. The Dangers of Pride:

- How did Paul's weakness serve as a reminder of his dependence on God? Why is it important for us to remain humble and rely on God's strength rather than our own abilities?
- Have you ever struggled with pride in your own life? How can we guard against pride and cultivate a spirit of humility?

2. God's Grace:

- What does Paul mean when he talks about the "thorn in his flesh"? How do you think this thorn impacted his life?
- Despite Paul's weakness, how did God's grace sustain him? How have you experienced God's grace in your own life?

3. God Provides Strength in Times of Weakness:

- How does God's power work best in our weakness? Why does God often choose to use the weak and broken to display His strength?
- Share a time when you felt weak and vulnerable, but God provided strength and comfort in that situation.

4. Trust in God:

- What does it mean to "boast all the more gladly about our weaknesses"? How can embracing our weaknesses lead to a deeper trust in God?

- How can we actively trust God in the midst of our weaknesses and challenges? What practical steps can we take to surrender our weaknesses to Him?

Notes: