Finding God’s Strength In Your Weakness

Studies in 2 Corinthians
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“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. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong!”

2 Cor 12:9-10
Finding Purpose In The Pain:
Part 2

2 Corinthians 1:8-11

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#1: He comforts us so we can comfort others

#2: He allows us to struggle to teach us how to rely upon Him and not ourselves
Look At What Happened In Paul’s Life

• What we don’t know

• What we do know
  ~Crushed him spiritually
  Pressed down + Beyond/Above + Strength
  ~Caused him to despair
  ~He resigned himself to death
Understand Why God Allows Painful Things To Happen To Us

• Purpose clause: *So that we can learn to rely upon Him*

“When hope has left us and death is the only prospect, then God stands forth, the God who raises the dead. *Such situations are his opportunity, for He, and He alone, is able to meet them.*”

Constance; patient continuance
Remember What God Can Do Through You

• The fact: He comforts
• The Purpose: “So that”
• The Strength: Not just Sympathy, but Strength!
Understand The Process God Uses To Provide Purpose In Pain

• Meets suffering with grace: vs 5
• Provides His word: Heb 4:12
• Provides others: vs 4
• Provides His hope: vs 7
• Provides Purpose: vs 4 “So that”
Purpose In The Pain

“We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.”
2 Cor 4:10

“if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.”
Rom 8:17
There Is Purpose In Pain If You Will...

1. Call on God for His help and comfort

2. Offer your hurt to help others

Remember:
If you don’t get it...you can’t give it away!
You can’t give...what you don’t have!