
Progress, Not Perfection
"Growing Stronger In Weakness"
2 Corinthians 12:7-10

11-21-21

Introduction: We are in the midst of a series where we are focused on growing through the negative moments of our lives.

1. These seasons come in all shapes & sizes. We've considered:
 - Mistakes
 - Loss
 - Fears
 - Times of Waiting
2. All of these share the common denominator of being unwelcomed intrusions into our lives.
3. We would prefer to live "happily ever after". That kind of life is not available this side of eternity.
4. Today we will focus on our weakness. We don't like to admit it, but we all have them.
 - They can be physical, mental, emotional, relational, spiritual, aspirational, etc.
 - You are not alone. The greatest men & women who ever lived had weaknesses.
5. We will use Paul as a case study to learn how to grow despite our weakness.

I. Weakness Has A Purpose

- A. To Prevent Conceit

- B. To Promote Dependency

II. In Weakness We Need A Plan

- A. Refuse To Trust Self

- B. Seek God

- C. Recruit Allies

- D. Experience God's Power

Conclusion: No one enjoys moments of weakness, but moments of weakness really are inevitable.

1. To be ready for those moments, let's do some self-examination.
 - Where am I weak & why?
 - Where is God in my weakness?
 - Have I grown in these areas?
 - Am I content in these areas?
2. We will never be without weakness in this life, but when we bring our weakness to God, we can & will grow!