

## Podcast Episode Notes

### Season 4 Episode 2 God Loves Weakness

No one likes to talk about weakness, but yet God loves weakness. Paul encourages us to see ourselves as needy and powerless. We live in a culture where we don't want to show any vulnerabilities. That's an opening for attack. But the Scriptures tell us God's power is made perfect in weakness. How do we live that way?

#### Scripture References

Paul writes "Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. 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 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 Corinthians 12: 8-10

"Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Hebrews 4:14-16

"You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly." Romans 5:6

1. Exercise and embrace humility. Grace doesn't fall on those who say I'm going to suck this up and push through. James 4:6 – "But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: 'God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.'" Jesus is attracted to humility. God's presence is drawn to humility.
2. Next step is surrendering everything. There's nothing I can do to bring about change - transform myself, transform the other. It's about yielding it to Jesus.
3. Next step is receiving peace.

"Do not be anxious about anything but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

Christian missionary to China Hudson Taylor called it the exchanged life. We exchange our weakness, powerlessness and neediness as a human being for Jesus' strength.

Note from Dave's mom: Nothing can come your way except approved by the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit which means He has a purpose for it in your life – whether its building character, muscling you up as a disciple of Jesus whether it's teaching you to exercise warfare

or in revealing God's character to you. This reminds us that if this has come my way, no matter how painful or challenging, God is with me in it, there's something He wants to do in me or through me.

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You can find more on weakness and grace in Chapter 3 of *A Discipleship Journey: A Proven and Practical Tool for Making Disciples of Jesus*. The new, updated edition is now available at [Lionshare.org](https://lionshare.org). The e-book is available on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com).

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