

## PRAYER BULLETIN #87, 27Feb2021

### GOD'S ALL SUFFICIENT GRACE

*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.'*  
2 Cor.12:8,9

#### REFLECTION

In times of crises, we would often wonder how to get out of such situations. Sometimes we wonder why God would allow such crises to enter into our lives. We may not have any satisfying explanations to such wonderings which can leave us bearing through the struggles and pain grudgingly and also doubting God's goodness and love for us.

If you have such experiences and thoughts you are not alone. The apostle Paul had personal issues where he asked God to intervene and deliver him from whatever that bugged him badly enough to invite more stress into his already stress-filled circumstances. Yet, God did not remove the "issue" that brought pain from Paul. Instead, God's solution was words of assurance that He would provide what Paul would need to bear through the situation. God wasn't to remove the problem but to give Paul the resources and strength to face the situation, not in his own wisdom and abilities but in his own weaknesses and depending solely on God alone.

Looking at Paul's situation it may not make sense at all that the "thorn in the flesh" should remain with him indefinitely especially when he was doing such a great and important work for God. In reality the intensity and pro-longed pain often speaks louder and dictate the way we respond and pray. Yet, God alone is sovereign. He sees the final outcome and knows why we have to journey with certain struggles and pain in our lives. His purpose and will is not to harm us but to help us grow stronger in our faith in Him. How long will we have to bear with our personal struggles and pain? We can't foretell. But we do have God's promise that assures us we are not alone. God is aware and He would enable us with His grace to struggle with the issues and pain, journey through and arrive at the end victorious. So, hang on in there with Him beside you.

#### PRAYER

*Heavenly Father, when certain struggles and pain in life seem to remain longer than we would prefer, grant us patience to bear them with Your grace, knowing that You would not allow us to go through beyond what we can carry. Keep us close to Your side and ever drawing from Your resources and strength to live each day for Your glory. Amen.*

#### SUPPLICATION

- Are you having to deal with an issue or personal challenge/s that seems unsolvable? You may have sought God (and other people) many times but the end is nowhere in sight. Once again, turn to God and surrender the matter to Him. Ask for God's grace to come upon you daily, knowing He is generous and kind in character.
- You may know of those who are facing difficulties and challenges for a long time but have not overcome them to this day. Bring them and their situations before God. Pray for God's grace to reach them especially during critical moments where they may not be able to bear. Pray for their faith in God to be sustained and not waver under pressure and stress. Pray for wisdom to know if you may be God's means of grace to this brother or sister, such that God may use you to bring relief to them.
- Pray for those who do not know that God is their help and that they can turn to Him; instead, they turn to unethical and unhealthy means for immediate relief. Pray that God would meet them at their point of need and rescue them from every evil intent and wicked schemes. Pray that they may come to know that God is loving, faithful and trustworthy, that they may also come to receive him as their God and worship Him.
- Pray for the gospel message of Jesus Christ, the one true Saviour, to be preached in many places and situations. Pray that believers be alert to the opportunities to share with their family and friends that they may know God and be saved. Let their sharing be supported by loving actions. Pray that the Holy Spirit would open minds to understand, wills to accept and hearts to believe.

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

**If you need any prayer or pastoral care support, kindly contact the pastoral care team via:**

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