

## **HIS GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR 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.*

*2 Cor. 12:9*

### **REFLECTION**

Many of us have something that irritates us, haunts us, or inflicts pain on us. It may be a friend or a family member who is constantly mouthing falsehood about us behind our back. It may be a bad experience or a decision we made when we were young and we wished we could go back and undo them. It could be an illness which refuses to go away. These are the "thorns in our flesh." No matter how much we pray to God to take such irritants and worries away, they continue to plague us.

We are not alone in being distressed by such thorns. Even a Godly person like Paul talks about having a "thorn in my flesh" which has tormented him. (2 Cor. 12:7) We do not know what that "thorn" might be, but it was miserable enough for him to say, "Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me." (2 Cor. 12:8). Obviously his prayer was not answered. God did not take away the "thorn."

Although Paul did not get the answer he sought, what he received was something better. He was given a new spiritual insight to what it means to live with a thorn in his life.

We do not have to be afraid of, nor should we be crippled by, our weaknesses. In God's way of working, weaknesses can be our strength. Those who are facing problems in life can find in God the transforming grace to help us deal with and overcome whatever thorns we have to carry. Whatever afflictions we have to bear, God's grace is sufficient for us.

Sometimes instead of pleading to God to remove the thorns which have been troubling us, it may be more fruitful to ask God for grace to deal with such thorns.

There is power at work even in human weakness. God's resources can empower us to live a wholesome and fulfilling life even when we cannot get rid of all the things which cause us irritation, pain and anxiety.

### **PRAYER**

*Father God, like Paul, we do have thorns in our flesh. We pray that you will help us dispose of such thorns that cause us to be miserable and sometimes angry. If we have to live with*

*thorns which cannot be easily taken away, grant us grace to overcome our weaknesses. In the name of Jesus, Amen.*

### **SUPPLICATION**

- We thank God for the power of His liberating grace which can help us live a faithful life as committed disciples of Christ.
- We pray that God will empower and grant Christians courage to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with those who have not heard the story of Jesus and God's gift of salvation.
- We ask God to guide those who have been blessed with material riches to be kind and generous people, always willing to offer material support and volunteer their service to those who are poor and powerless.
- We call on God to heal those who are sick and protect those who are providing frontline healthcare during this time of Covid-19 pandemic. We pray that God will help our scientists to find an effective cure for Covid and other serious illnesses.

*"Many times I am tried and tested  
As I travelled day by day,  
'Oft, I meet with pain and sorrow  
And there's trouble in the way.  
But I have a sweet assurance  
That my soul, the Lord will lead.  
And in him there is strength for every need.*

*O, His grace is sufficient for me  
And his love is abundant and free.  
And what joy fills my soul,  
Just to know, Just to know.  
His grace is sufficient for me."  
Mosie Lister*

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

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