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# My Year End RESOLUTION

LEARNING TO FINISH WITH GRATITUDE AND FAITHFULNESS







#FinishGrateful #FinishThankful

**WEEK FOUR Commended to Grace - Part 2** 2 Corinthians 12:7-10



## IN GOOD HANDS STILL

Our Year End Resolution to be doers of the Word cannot be accomplished without the *grace of God* operating in our lives. To some degree God's grace is already at work, for no one can accept Christ as Savior without it (Eph. 2:8). Let's look again at the words of the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians.

"Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me - to keep me from exalting myself! Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me. And He has said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.' Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong."

-2 Corinthians 12:9-10

# THE PATHWAY TO POWER

To take the principles conveyed in this text to a place of practical application we must understand:

- ▶ Not all weakness is an indication of what **cannot** be done.
- ► Sometimes God allows attacks in order to **expose** an area of weakness and needed transformation and growth.
- ▶ God's grace is sufficient (adequate), not only to endure attacks but also to **grow** in Christ-like character through them.
- ► Understanding grace brings uncommon **contentment** with weaknesses and difficulties.

Paul grasped what the Lord said to him with such **RESOLVE** that it changed his outlook on life's challenges. He determined to **be content with weaknesses**, **insults**, **distresses**, **persecutions and difficulties**. Why? Because weakness is in essence a magnet for God's strength (1 Jn. 4:4, Phil. 4:13, 2 Cor. 12:10). So then, our practical application is to **identify our weaknesses** and then step out of fear and shame and step into grace and confidence.

"But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, 'God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.'"
-James 4:6 NASB

<u>Humility</u> is the pathway to "greater grace" in our lives. And grace is the power that undergirds a resolute heart fixed on fulfilling the plans of the Lord.

### **WORSHIP**

Give God praise and glory for meeting us at our weaknesses and equipping us with His grace.

# **LEARN**

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Review the teaching The Abider: Week 8 as well as the verses from 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. Notice the difference between the responses of Elijah and Paul to the Word of the Lord

#### **SERVE**

God's expectation is not for us to "get better" at something before we take action. Our weakness is His opportunity. Where His GRACE meets us is the BETTER AT IT point. Continue to participate in 60 Days of Community.

NEW CELEBRATION TIMES
BEGINNING SUNDAY DECEMBER 9TH!
SATURDAY 5PM SUNDAY 9AM AND 11:30AM