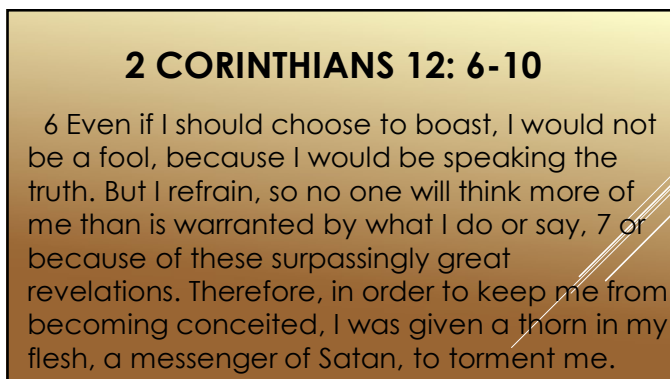




1



2



3

8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. 9 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. 10 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.

4

SCRIPTURES:

**2 SAMUEL
12:15-23**



5

2 SAMUEL 12:15-23

15 After Nathan had gone home, the Lord struck the child that Uriah's wife had borne to David, and he became ill. 16 David pleaded with God for the child. He fasted and spent the nights lying in sackcloth[a] on the ground. 17 The elders of his household stood beside him to get him up from the ground, but he refused, and he would not eat any food with them.

6

18 On the seventh day the child died. David's attendants were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they thought, "While the child was still living, he wouldn't listen to us when we spoke to him. How can we now tell him the child is dead? He may do something desperate."

7

19 David noticed that his attendants were whispering among themselves, and he realized the child was dead. "Is the child dead?" he asked. "Yes," they replied, "he is dead."

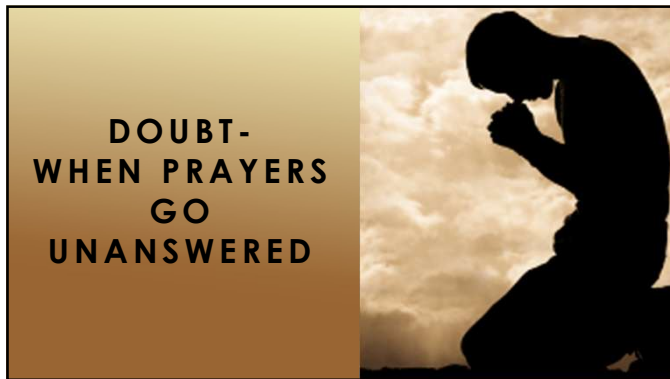
20 Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house, and at his request they served him food, and he ate.

8

21 His attendants asked him, "Why are you acting this way? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept, but now that the child is dead, you get up and eat!"

22 He answered, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, 'Who knows? The Lord may be gracious to me and let the child live.' 23 But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me."

9



10

THINGS WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PRAYER.

- ▶ The answer is that, in the final analysis, prayer is not about results. It's about relationship.
- ▶ there's nothing wrong with being honest about your pain and frustration
- ▶ we simply don't know why prayers go unanswered.
- ▶ God's ways and knowledge is greater than ours.

11

GOD ALWAYS ANSWERS.

- ▶ **When God says yes. We love this.**
- ▶ Ex: King Hezekiah's healing (2 Kings 20: 1-6; Hannah prayer for a child (1 Samuel 1:9-20).
- ▶ **When God says yes but not now, we become impatient.**
- ▶ Ex: Abraham and Sarah Promise of a son (Isaac) (Gen. 15:1-6; 17:1-20)

12

- ▶ Ex: Moses prayer to enter the promise land. No to Moses and not now to the people. (Deut. 3:23-29)
- ▶ **God says no. We often cannot accept this. We always want what we want.**
- ▶ Ex: David with Bathsheba – death of son (2 Sam. 12-13-20.)
- ▶ Ex: Paul's thorn of the flesh- 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.

13

REASONS WHY GOD SAYS NO.

- ▶ Unconfessed Sin
- ▶ Lack of faith
- ▶ Selfish motives
- ▶ Asking Against God's Will
- ▶ Disobedience

14

- ▶ Broken relationships
- ▶ Pride
- ▶ Lack of compassion
- ▶ Unwilling to forgive others.
- ▶ Not asking.

15

ACCEPTING GOD'S ANSWER

- ▶ God gives confidence of His answer.
- ▶ Knowing that God knows better than us.
- ▶ God wants us to have good things but that doesn't mean He always says yes.

16



**THANK YOU FOR
JOINING US
TODAY!**

**SEE YOU NEXT
WEEK!**

17
