

# My Grace Is Sufficient for You

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## *II Corinthians 12:9*

- I. Jesus uses the storms of life to prepare our hearts before God and to send us out to a traumatized and fearful world (Luke 8:22-25; Mark 4:35-41).**
  - A. These are key questions! “Where is your faith?” “Why are you so afraid?” “Do you still have no faith?”
  - B. God is always testing the heart and looking for faith (Proverbs 17:3). In fact, a heart of faith gives God pleasure (Hebrews 11:1, 6, 17-19).
  
- II. Jesus was always putting his disciples in a position of weakness so they could learn to walk in the strength of God. This is how they learned to release God’s power and compassion to the lost and broken. This is how we learn, too.**
  - A. “Take nothing for the journey” (Luke 9:1-6).
  - B. “You give them something to eat” (Luke 9:12-17).
  - C. The “School of the Heart” is always in session. Jesus labored to teach them that He was always their primary provider (Matthew 16:5-12). “Do you still not understand” (Matthew 16:9)?
  
- III. Paul understood that in his weakness he was made strong. He understood it as the key for his ministry and the key for everyone who wanted to walk with God.**
  - A. Experiencing and releasing the deep compassion of God (II Corinthians 1:3-7; John 17:25-27).
  - B. Many events happen in our lives so we can learn to rely on the power of God, the compassion of God, and the prayers of others (II Corinthians 1:8-11).
    1. The depth of God’s power—raising the dead (II Corinthians 1:9)!
    2. The hope of God’s power—continual deliverance for every situation of life (II Corinthians 1:10)!
    3. Relying on the prayers of others (II Corinthians 1:11).
  - C. Ultimately God’s formula for ministering to the world is: Power made perfect in weakness (II Corinthians 12:6-13).
    1. Paul’s credentials to be a great apostle were the weakness of his suffering, and the faith to let God be strong.
    2. These were the lessons Jesus also taught the twelve disciples (Matthew 11:25-26; I Corinthians 1:26-29).

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July 13 & 14, 2019*