

BOASTING IN WEAKNESS

God's strength is made perfect as we boast in our weakness. How do we boast in our limitations? How do we delight in our difficulties?

1. Recognize an aspect of your life that feels painful, out of control, frustrating, embarrassing, or frightening. In other words, recognize a weakness, a thorn in your flesh. (2 Corinthians 12:7)
2. Cry out to the Lord and ask Him to remove it (2 Corinthians 12:8). Use psalms of lament like Psalm 13, Psalm 22, and Psalm 88.
3. Recognize your weakness as part of the suffering of Jesus. Join Jesus in His suffering through your suffering (Philippians 3:10-11).
4. Surrender. Join Jesus in letting God do whatever He wants with whatever part of your life that He wishes. (Luke 22:42)
4. Anticipate how joining Jesus in His suffering through your weakness and surrendering to God will lead to an experience of resurrection. Watch for how God will make His strength perfect in your weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9).
5. With that sense of anticipation, boast about your weakness. Joyfully embrace your limits, your short-coming, your inability or disability, knowing that Jesus will be making you stronger at that particular point of weakness. Celebrate your weakness, because when you are weak, that's when you will be strong. (2 Corinthians 12:10).
6. Watch for evidence of God's grace being sufficient, and His strength being perfected, in your weakness. Don't worry if you don't see anything. Make that another weakness about which you can boast. (Psalm 27:13-14)