

## My Grace Is Sufficient

Paul went through many trials after his conversion to Christianity. He was mocked, rejected, shipwrecked, beaten, stoned, and left for dead. But out of all the things that he endured, the thorn that he was given was the only thing that he asked specifically to be removed.

While Paul endured many trials and tribulations, he was also given much revelation into the heart of God. Paul says that because of all of this, he was given a "thorn in his flesh, a messenger from Satan" to keep him from becoming prideful. Notice that the thorn was only allowed in Paul's flesh, not his spirit. If you remember, the fruit of joy is a supernatural gift of God that grows in our inner man, our spirit. The thorn that Paul experienced was uncomfortable to his flesh, but God reassured him that His grace was sufficient and that in Paul's weakness God's grace would be his strength.

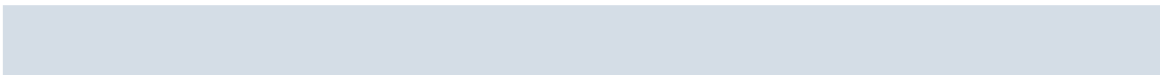
The word for grace here comes from the Greek word, charis. According to Strong's Concordance the word charis means 1 grace. 1a that which affords joy, pleasure, delight, sweetness, charm, loveliness: grace of speech. The root word for charis is chairō which is also the root word for the word rejoice. No matter what our circumstances are, we need to understand that God's grace is sufficient to get us through them all. He has promised to never leave or forsake us. His joy is our strength because His grace is what produces His joy in us.

All around the enemy is trying to send us his messages of strife, confusion, doubt, fear, worry, pain, and stress. Because our flesh is the part of us that God designed to relate to the natural world we have no trouble picking up these messages. Just like a radio picks up radio waves, our flesh is subject to the things of the world. Satan has become very good at sending our flesh messages. Many, many thorns have become lodged in our thinking. His hope is that we will focus on the pain of his messages so that he can distract us. He wants us to hear his voice, which is usually loud and demanding as

compared to God's still, small voice. The still small voice of God is only picked up by our renewed, born again spirit, our inner man, which is the part of us that God designed to communicate and relate Him. Unfortunately, satan has been sending out signals for years that have prevented us from hearing God's voice clearly.

It's time for us to tune our spirits into the things of God and allow His grace to empower us to withstand the fiery darts and thorns of the enemy. So today, ask the Holy Spirit to help you tune into GRACE FM and tune out the messages of satan. God want's us to rely and trust in Him so that He can be our ever present help in this world of trouble. Satan is not going to be removed, but God has promised that His grace, His joy, and His strength will be more than sufficient to help us withstand any and every attack that he tries to bring against us. Stop wining and worrying (which by the way only attracty more thorns!) about your thorn and start praising and thanking God for His ever present help. God's grace really is sufficient, but we must do like Paul and decide that nothing will stop us from fulfilling God's plans and purposes for our lives. Greater is His joy and grace deep within us than anything that is in the world.

PRAYER: Dear Lord, I feel as though I fallen into a briar bush today and I have splinters and thorns sticking me everywhere! I am asking You to empower me with Your grace. You will rebuke the devourer for my sake and You will be my strength. Thank You that You are able to do exceedingly, abundantly, above and beyond anything that I can hope or imagine. Thank you that Your grace is more than sufficient for every circumstance and every thorn that tries to stick me today. Release Your joy in me and help me know that You are on my side, not against me. In Jesus Name, Amen.





2 Corinthians 12:9 God said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."