

There's a place that God will meet us to empower us to live according to and by His grace. It is the most vulnerable place that we have because none of us wants to admit that we have this point. But like it or not, we all have an area of weakness and it is in that place that God promises that He will strengthen us.

The world has convinced us that if we want to make it, we must be strong. We must work, work, work. We must never admit defeat. We must look out for ourselves and most important we must never admit that we are weak! But God's ways are not our ways (Isaiah 55) and His ways lead to life. And most importantly, His ways offer us rest (Matthew 11:28), even in the midst of tremendous struggles.

James 4:7 says that if we will submit ourselves to God and resist the devil, he, the devil, will *FLEE*. When we humble ourselves and fully submit ourselves to God, we open the way to receive God's grace, which is His strength. God takes great pleasure in releasing His grace to us when we admit that on our own, we can do nothing. It is at the place of humility that God draws near to us. But He will not and cannot be strong in our prideful arrogance that insists on doing things on its own. He refuses to compete with *our* ways. So as long as you continue to resist Him through pride, He will resist you! (James 4:6)

That's pretty scary when you think about it. But the good news is that He has everything we need stored up, prepared and ready to pour out into our lives when we finally come to that place of humbling ourselves. Romans 5:5 in the Message Bible says that we can't round up enough containers to hold all that God wants to give us through the Holy Spirit. I'm convinced that if we would just admit that we are weak and foolish, repent and ask forgiveness, the flow of God's grace would begin to pour forth abundantly in our lives. But as long as we hold on to "what we know" and what makes sense to us, we literally stop up the flow of God's grace to us.

So I've decided that I'm just going to admit that I am weak. Then I'm going to trust that in every place that I am weak, God's grace, mercy, favor and goodness will fill up that place and cause me to triumph. That's how faith operates and faith is what pleases God. In my, and your, weakness God desires to show Himself **STRONG!** So let's stop trying to hide our weaknesses and lay them out before Him, knowing that when we confess our sin (and it really is sin) He is faithful to forgive, restore, and empower us with His grace.

Prayer: Dear Father, thank You for Your abundant provision of Grace. Thank

you that you understand my weaknesses and that you have provided a way for me to be strong in You, through the Holy Spirit. You are my strength when I am weak and You alone can supply all of my needs through Christ's riches in Glory. All that I am, weaknesses and all, I bring to you today. Forgive me for trying to make it on my own. I ask You to fill every place that I am weak with Your grace so that my life will bring glory and honor to You. On my own I can do nothing; but with You, ALL things are possible! In Jesus Name, Amen.



*2 Corinthians 12:9 "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."*