

Veterans Sunday

with Chaplain Phil Smith

Life Group Discussion Questions – November 13, 2022

How do we like to **PRESENT** ourselves? 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Paul's **ACCEPTANCE** of his weakness is a trusting in the faithfulness of God to do what He says He will do.

In moments of **WEAKNESS**, how do we honestly feel?

Whatever happens to us, the world from an outside perspective will absolutely say it is bad. And it most definitely can be **HURTFUL** and **PAINFUL**. Romans 8:28

God faithfully uses whatever circumstances we've got going on right now for **OUR GOOD**.

God faithfully uses the situations of life to show us His **GOODNESS** and His **MERCY**.

But let's be honest, there are still times in our life when we need a **REMINDER**.

Maybe you're able to **ATTEST** to the faithfulness of God. Share with those who may need to hear.

Maybe you're in need a reminder today of the **GOODNESS** and **FAITHFULNESS** of God.

Psalms 119:89-90; Deuteronomy 31:6; 1 John 1:9

I will stand here today and confess to you all that the Lord is faithful. And He is good.

Auburn Grace Community church – November 13th, 2022

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 *And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore, I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.*

DISCOVER

1. What circumstances has God allowed that have brought you to your wit's end? How did it cause you to turn to Him?
2. "Anything that causes us to need God is a blessing." Do you agree with that statement? Why or why not?
3. How does remembering about what God has done for you in the past help to give you hope in difficult circumstances?

EXPLORE

1. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. What should we know about God as a result of receiving His grace? How does God's grace and love fulfill what we lack?
2. Read Romans 8:26-30. How can other people's sin against us, persecution, losing our job, sickness, and death of relatives work out for our good? What is Satan's intention when these things happen in our lives? What quality does this teach us God has? Any examples in the Bible of seemingly bad things working out for good? Any examples in your own life? What effect should the knowledge of this doctrine have on our daily lives? How should it change our attitude and our outlook?

EXPERIENCE

1. How has God worked in and through you when things were beyond your control? What will you do to develop trust in God that you will rely on during times of stress and suffering?
2. What do you find to be the hardest thing for you in handling suffering and extreme situations that stretch and test you? What would it look like to "boast in your weakness"? How are you tempted to run and hide from it, rather than seeing it as a beneficial tool in the Lord's hands? What might God be doing in and through you while you struggle?
3. Why do painful circumstances cause us to pray our best? What keeps you from regularly crying out to God as part of your prayer life?
4. When have you had to trust God for an uncertain or unknown outcome? What did you learn from the experience?

PRAY

PRAY... Our Gracious God and Father, thank You that we have been called according to Your plan and purpose. Thank You, Lord, that You are causing all things to work together to finally achieve Your great redemptive plan and purpose for mankind. And thank You, Lord, that so often we see Your gracious hand working in our lives and in the lives of all Your children. Thank You that Your grace is always sufficient. In Jesus' Name, amen.

ACTION... At your next Life Group meeting, share how you surrendered a difficult moment to the Lord, by being willful to accept an outcome that did not originate from you and how you changed as a result.