

Sermon Notes for II Corinthians 12:1-10

In II Corinthians 12, Paul begins by describing someone in the third person who had a vision of going into Heaven. He does not name himself but instead describes someone who had an amazing experience. He uses his vision story as something that could lead to pride. Paul is referring to himself, but his vision took place 14 years ago.

1. What are some things in your life that make you want to brag about your successes?

Paul shares his vision because there were those who were questioning his authority because Paul was not part of the original 12 apostles. However, Paul did see the risen Jesus just like they had, he had many visions, and God did many amazing things in Paul's life. Paul had many reasons to brag but he didn't.

2. Why does Paul say God would not remove the thorn from his side? Hint, there are two reasons. (II Cor. 12:7, 9).
3. What are some of the difficult things you have faced where God showed you His grace was sufficient?
4. What does "My grace is sufficient" mean?
5. God also told Paul that not only was His grace sufficient, but something else happened because of Paul's weaknesses. What was revealed about God?

6. God works through our weakness to _____ His glory.

God uses weakness to _____ us.

God's _____ is seen in what we cannot do because His _____ is sufficient.

7. According to Philippians 2:8-11, what did Jesus do?

8. When Paul said, "Every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord," who does every include?

9. What do you need God's grace to be sufficient for you right now? II Corinthians 12:9-11 says He is, and He will be. Think about how you can meditate on that promise and celebrate what God is doing while you are weak.