



Community Group Discussion Questions | Week of March 4-10

Weak is the New Strong

Series: Die Young

Title: Weak is the New Strong

2 Corinthians 12:5–10

Ask, What are some images that come to mind when you think of strong? What are some of your weaknesses? (ask this making it a little uncomfortable. We are quick to focus on our strengths but usually a more hesitant to share our weaknesses.)

Read - 2 Corinthians 12:5–10 ESV

On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses— though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Ask participants to unpack these verses some. What do they see here or do they remember from the sermon?

The interesting thing about bold, brash Peter - everything he did in his own strength, failed. “Get behind me Satan.” In God’s economy, when we are weak, then He makes us strong.

Read Romans 7:18 ESV

For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.

Ask, How does this verse speak directly against common thought that if we just do enough good, we can make it on our own? How does this belief creep into the Christian’s life at times?

Say, God is writing your story? What if you are the pen in God’s hand and you are being used to write His story? With this reality, how might you realign your life to allow Him to write His story using you as one of the pens?

Have someone read Luke 18:27. But he said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

Read Galatians 2:2–3 ESV

Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

One of the points of the sermon is **Waiting is strong.**

Ask, What do you remember as being the main focus on this point?

The reward of waiting is strength.

EM Bounds quote - delay is the very essence of prayer. We usually use prayer to hurry the answer.

How does waiting show strength in a Christ-follower?

Is 40:31

We have heard that **Turning the other cheek is strong.** What does that look in your life?

Have someone read Matthew 5:39

How are some possible ways you might remember to live this out this week?

Read 1 Peter 2:21–23 ESV

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

Another sermon point is **Meekness is strong**. Ask someone to define meekness. How does God's definition differ from the normal way people define meekness?

Assign John 5:19 and John 8:28 to be read. How do we see meekness in the words of Jesus?

One of our main challenges as living breathing humans is that we feel like we have to defend ourselves? What did Christ model when it came to defending Himself?

Colossians 3:12

The final point is **Serving is strong** –

Read 2 Corinthians 4:5.

“For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.”

How does this statement line up with how a Christ-follower is to respond? – The servant isn't concerned with self, but with the master.

This is a hard statement. Share with caution. -

Is it fair to ask, If I am more concerned about what others think of me than I am with them coming to know Christ and serving Him, then I am my own master?

Ask for any additional comments/observations.

Share prayer requests and close in prayer.