

DISCOVERY SERIES

The  
**STRENGTH** of  
**WEAKNESS**

God's Power Where We Least Expect It



**Dan Schaeffer**



*introduction*

# The Strength of Weakness

God's Power Where We  
Least Expect It

**T**here aren't too many things in this world that have the power to dramatically change your life. Yet, bookstores, and television and radio ads are full of resources that promise to do just that. *Nothing Changes Until You Do, Think*

*and Grow Rich, The Power of Now, The 48 Laws of Power*, the list could go on. The search for improvement is intense. Why? Because each of us has a generous assortment of weaknesses that we'd desperately like to trade for strengths.

In the pages ahead, author Dan Schaeffer challenges us with the idea that the way to true strength may be down a path we don't expect. In the Christian life, perhaps there is more to being weak than we first thought.

*RBC Ministries*

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*one*

## Accepting Reality

**A**uthor and businessman Harvey Mackay told the story of a ten-year-old boy named Mark who wanted to study judo despite the fact that he had lost his left arm in an automobile accident.

Mark began his lessons with an aged Japanese judo master and was doing well. But after three months had passed and he had only been taught one move, he questioned the master. "This is the only move you'll ever need to know," was the master's reply.

Perplexed, but trusting, Mark kept training and several months later entered his first tournament. Surprising himself, Mark won the first two matches. The third match was more difficult, but soon his opponent became impatient and charged. Mark deftly used his lone move to win the match. He was now in the finals, but this time his opponent was much larger, much stronger, and far more experienced. Mark was nervous, and it was showing in the match. The referee, concerned for Mark's welfare, called a time-out. He was about to stop the seemingly imbalanced match when Mark's master intervened, "Let him continue."

The match resumed, and Mark's opponent made a critical mistake. Instantly, Mark used his move to pin him, winning the match and the tournament. On the way home, Mark reviewed all his matches and moves with his master, finally summoning the courage to ask the question on his mind: "How did I win the tournament with only one move?"

"You won for two reasons," the judo master answered. "First, you've almost mastered one of the most difficult throws in all judo. And second, the only known defense for that move is for your opponent to grab your left arm."<sup>1</sup>

Mark's weakness had become his greatest strength.

Each one of us has a generous assortment of weaknesses that we'd desperately like to replace. We struggle in our relationships. We know our marriage



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could be better. We are not the parents we always thought we'd be. Our children seem to bring out the worst in us. Our weaknesses are magnified every day and, worse, we are now noticing them in our children. We feel defeated and powerless. We know things could be better if we could just change...but we can't.

In our jobs, many of us have come to the depressing realization that we're not quite as talented or gifted as we thought we were. Others are passing us by.

We have tried for years to corral impure thoughts and pursue holiness with no real progress. We're racked by guilt every time we gossip but we can't seem to stop. "White lies" make us look and sound better and seem to come without thought or effort.

Our bodies fail. Diabetes, heart problems, bad backs, stomach ailments, incontinence, migraines, worn-out joints, bad vision, and many other ailments weaken us. Emotionally we become more and



*We want to feel bold and powerful.*



more fragile; stress and anxiety torment us. Increasingly smaller things bother us, and our emotional batteries run down quicker than they used to.

Weakness frightens us; we want to feel bold and powerful. The common perception is that weakness equals lack of power.

The logic seems clear and obvious. But it's wrong. The biblical perspective on weakness is counterintuitive, and therein lays its great advantage. For a Christian, weakness does *not* equal lack of power. In fact, we need to understand and accept a new paradigm: Our weakness is an opportunity to experience *God's* power!

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<sup>1</sup> Harvey Mackay, "Weakness can be a great motivator," *Orange County Register*, 3/27/2000.



*two*

## Adjusting Our Perspective

### Well Content with . . . What?

**T**he apostle Paul found a wonderful, freeing, and life-altering approach to accessing the miraculous power of Christ in his life. We read this in his letter to the Corinthian church.

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* (2 CORINTHIANS 12:9–10 *EMPHASIS MINE*).

Notice that Paul doesn't just say he was "content" with weaknesses, as in "I'll endure them since I can't do anything about them anyway," but "*well content*."<sup>10</sup> How could he (or anyone) be well content with weaknesses? Furthermore, how could Paul claim, "When I am weak, *then I am strong*"? Weakness and strength are opposites. It's like saying, "When I'm hot, then I'm cold" or "When I'm happy, then I'm sad."

↗ **The same Greek word** is used in Matthew 17:5 and Luke 3:22 when at both Jesus' baptism and His transfiguration, God speaks from the heavens and says, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased." Paul was claiming to be "well content" with his weaknesses using the same words as the Father did of Jesus when he said He was "well pleased" with Him.

## What If...

What if the path to true power—the resurrection power of Christ in our lives—doesn't come through trying harder, but by giving up the attempt to be powerful? What if God's power could be demonstrated through your life in ways you never thought possible—not by desperately trying harder than ever before to overcome your weaknesses, but

by admitting them and getting out of God's way, allowing Him to demonstrate His power through those very weaknesses? *What if your weaknesses were the very vehicle through which God had always intended to reveal His power?*

That's exactly what the Bible teaches us over and over again. It explains why God didn't remove Paul's weakness and why He may not remove ours. As strange as it sounds, reveling in weakness is the Christian way of life.

Our world tells us, "Embrace your strengths; overcome your weakness." Only in Scripture are we encouraged to embrace our weaknesses and through them experience a power that we could never know otherwise. This power is not our own, but the power of the risen Christ. Paul wanted the Corinthians to experience the power of God so that they would be satisfied with nothing less.

## **Weak Heroes of the Faith: We're Not Alone!**

Let's listen in to Paul speaking to the Corinthian church.

For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not



*What if the path  
to true power  
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powerful?*

many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, that He might nullify the things that are, so that no man should boast before God (1 CORINTHIANS 1:26–29).

Many of God's people do not come from the ranks of the strong and powerful. While that's not exactly complimentary, it is exciting. It means that we desperately need the power of Christ in our lives to be effective, powerful witnesses for Him in this world. It means that we are part of the weak things He has chosen. What it ultimately means is that *the power of God launches from our weakness—not our strength.*

▶ **Jesus' first disciples** did not come from the upper class or the religious and political elite. With few exceptions, those who are said to have followed Christ or received salvation were the ones least expected to do so—fishermen, zealots, tax collectors, prostitutes, adulterers, and Samaritans.

Paul was not alone in experiencing God's strength despite his weakness. Throughout Scripture we see the weaknesses of people being the very avenue through which God displays His strength and accomplishes the

most remarkable things.

Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers, and became a slave to Potiphar, and later was a prisoner in Pharaoh's prison (GENESIS 37, 39–41). In almost anyone's definition, this is not a powerful position.

David was a young shepherd with no military training, so small he couldn't even fit into Saul's armor. Yet God used him to defeat the greatest military warrior of the age, Goliath. Read the description of Goliath (1 SAMUEL 17) and remember, David defeated him with just a sling and a stone!

Daniel and his three companions—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego—were slaves in a foreign land and at the mercy of a highly volatile and egotistical king. A den of hungry lions (DANIEL 6) and a fiery furnace (DANIEL 3) are *not* positions of influence and strength.

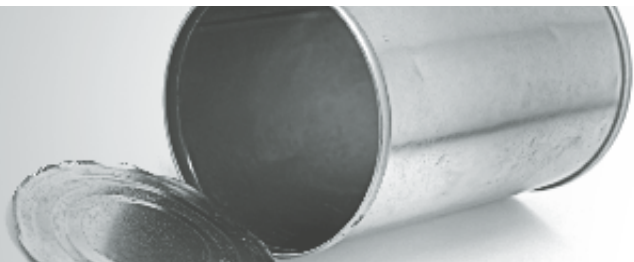
Paul wanted to *experience* the power of Christ, to see and feel God work in his life in an unmistakable way. He wanted to know that God was working through his weaknesses to accomplish great things for His kingdom, so that God alone would get the credit and glory. He was



*Throughout Scripture we see the weaknesses of people being the very avenue through which God accomplishes the most remarkable things.*

even willing to give up his request that his thorn in the flesh be removed, because his "reward" for that would be to experience the power of Christ.

How many of us can say we have clearly and legitimately experienced the power of Christ? Many of us would be hard-pressed to know what that even means.



*three*

## Kicking A Broken “Can”

**If I feel adequately prepared** for a task, I won't rely upon the power of Christ to help me. When I don't *feel* weak, when I don't know that I really *am* weak, I don't seek the power of Christ. This is the downside to our view of our own strength—it can block the flow of the power of Christ to us. *I can* make my marriage work; *I can* raise great kids who love God; *I can* do ministry effectively; *I can* be successful in life; *I can* beat my moral weakness; *I can* reach all my goals in life. *I can* . . .



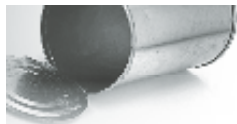
As long as we assume that we can handle a task—any task—by ourselves, God may step back and let us have a go at it.

▮ **Preparation** for our tasks is important. In fact, it is a matter of being responsible with what God has given us. However, when our reliance is on our preparation alone, we have left no room or opportunity for God to demonstrate His power. He asks us to prepare in part by relying on Him.

Why would any intelligent person (and Paul was certainly that) boast about their weaknesses? They highlight the very things we would most like to hide. Paul boasted because he realized something that we need to learn: Our weaknesses are the channels through which God often shows His power in our lives.

It is difficult, even painful, to admit that we're not great spouses (or parents or children or coworker or friends) or that our abilities aren't as impressive as we always believed they were. Most of our weaknesses are jealously guarded secrets that the whole world already knows. ▮

Just think of all the areas in which we expect ourselves to be strong. The first thing we need to learn (or remember) is that weakness is not failure—it is simply weakness, a standard experience for all of us.



*Most of our weaknesses are jealously guarded secrets that the whole world already knows.*

▶ *We may think we are doing a good job **masking our weaknesses**. But the truth is that they surface in ways we don't expect and are often easily identified by others despite our best efforts to hide them.*

Keep in mind that both weakness and power existed side-by-side in Paul's life. The same thing was true of our Lord. Weakness<sup>▶</sup> and power existed in Jesus simultaneously. Isn't the cross the ultimate example of power being perfected through weakness? "Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross" (PHILIPPIANS 2:8).

▶ *Jesus experienced the limitations and weaknesses that come with being human. The Gospels record that He was hungry, thirsty, tired, and experienced stress, mental and emotional anguish, physical pain, and the ultimate realization of weakness, death.*

Let's explore another counterintuitive, countercultural statement made by the apostle Paul. "If I have to boast, I will boast of what pertains to my weakness" (2 CORINTHIANS 11:30). It is only with great difficulty that we try to understand this passage. Was Paul engaging in hyperbole? Was he writing these words merely for effect?

Paul's goal was not to draw attention to his shortcomings (or his humility), but rather to shine the spotlight on the place where God's power was going to show up most

obviously. God had taught Paul that His power would be evident in his weakness, and Paul wanted to experience the power of God.

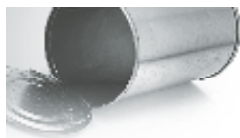
Most of us don't mind admitting certain weaknesses because they pose no threat to our pride or sense of self-sufficiency.

"I'm no longer the athlete I once was."

"I'm a little heavier than I used to be."

"My memory's not what it used to be."

These are safe, easy (almost), admissions, usually even made with a bit of a smile. As long as we feel sufficiently strong or competent in another area—typically one that we feel is more significant—we don't feel threatened by admitting weaknesses in "safe" areas. But there are two considerations we need to keep in mind. On the one hand, this is simply a willingness to *admit* weaknesses. Paul speaks of *boasting* about them, of pointing them out to others on purpose and with a purpose, and even with a strange pride. On the other hand, these are things that generally do not have a strong bearing on either our sense of identity or self-worth.



***Most of us don't mind admitting certain weaknesses because they pose no threat to our pride or sense of self-sufficiency.***

Why is it so hard for us to admit—to say nothing of boasting about—our deep and serious weaknesses? Perhaps it's because we feel it will threaten our self-image.

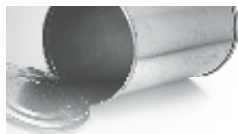
👉 It is significant that Paul mentions **grace** in Romans 12:3. It is only through the grace of God that Paul can look at himself, and encourage others to do the same, in the right light. Left to our own strength, we would not be able to do this.

Most, if not all of us, use our self-image as a protection for our ego. But Paul reminds us in his letter to the Romans that wisdom begins with thinking rightly about ourselves. “For through the grace<sup>👉</sup> given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith” (ROMANS 12:3). We hide our weaknesses from others because we think they will affect the way others view us, and we want to make a good impression, and because we *think* God wants us to feel strong because we're Christians!

This last idea is most often a result of misunderstanding a popular verse: “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me” (PHILIPPIANS 4:13). The part we tend to focus on is the “I can do all things” part, not the “through Him who strengthens me.” I suppose many of us have a “can do” attitude, which is why we are attracted to the first half of the verse and are confused by the second. Since we're Christians, we certainly ought to be stronger

than the average person—after all, we have God on our side, plus the Bible and the church.

Yet, the only time Paul said “I am strong” was right after he had said, “for when I am weak.” We may not *feel* weak, and we may not *look* weak, which is often our greatest problem. If we feel strong in ourselves, we will come up empty when we look for the power of God in our lives. *When our successes are easily explainable by pointing to our training, methodology, talents, or circumstances, the results may be weak precisely because they do not clearly demonstrate the power of God.*



**God is not waiting for us to become weak, but to realize, admit, and accept our weakness, and then to ask for His power and watch Him work.**

God is not waiting for us to become weak, but to realize, admit, and accept our weakness, and then to ask for His power and watch Him work. This isn't easy; it means we need to unlearn some behaviors and learn new ones.

When a situation arises in our life that is a problem, a challenge, or a calamity, *we usually react in a certain way*. We've developed habits we may not even realize. Let's visit that for a moment. Before we can start to do something different, we need to learn how to change our first reactions.

How do you react? Some react negatively:

**I quit!**

**I'll never survive this.**

**I'm going to fail!**

**I can't beat this.**

**I'm not up to this.**

**I'm going to be destroyed by this.**

**This is just impossible!**

**I can't bring myself to do this.**

Others react *positively*:

**I can handle this.**

**I'll figure this out.**

**I'm strong!**

**I'm not going to fail!**

**This won't beat me.**

**I believe in myself.**

**This is just a speed bump.**

**I will survive!**

Each of us has a default reaction in most situations. Some of us are positive, *we-can-beat-this* kind of people; others of us are negative, *I'll-never-beat-this* kind of people. Some react with confidence in their abilities; others react with skepticism and trepidation. Oddly neither response is correct.

You see, either way we are focusing on ourselves, not on God and what He might want to do in this situation. Both reactions are difficult to overcome. When you've learned to quit, to surrender, to imagine failure in all you do, *your eyes are constantly on your weakness*, not His power. When you've learned to think positively, to believe in yourself and your own ability to succeed, *your eyes are constantly on your own power*, not on God's. In

both situations we are finding the answer to the test or challenge within ourselves—forgetting God and His power that is available to us.

In our weakest moments God can deliver us in a mighty way, and in our strongest moments He can do far beyond what our puny human strength and giftedness can accomplish. However we might feel, or whatever pose we might strike, we are weak and powerless before almighty God. Whatever our first reaction is to weakness or challenges, if it isn't seeking Him and His power first and foremost, we need to change.



*four*

## Recognizing God's Power

**H**arry Houdini the great escape artist earned his fame by escaping handcuffs, prison cells, and all manner of contraptions designed to confine him. He boasted on numerous occasions that no jail cell could hold him. He had never failed. He always escaped. Well, almost always.

Urban legend says that on one occasion Houdini entered a cell as he usually did, wearing his street clothes. The authorities shut the jail cell behind him and left him.



Alone, he did what he had done so many times before: he pulled a thin but strong piece of metal from his belt, he began working the lock. But this time the cell wouldn't open. The lock would not yield. He worked feverishly, applying his amazing knowledge of locks and their mechanisms to the task. Two hours later, in frustration and failure, he gave up. The lock simply would not yield. The Great Houdini had finally failed.

Why? What went wrong?

*The guards had forgotten to lock the cell.*

All he needed to do was to push open the cell door. The only place the door had been locked was in Houdini's mind.

Sound familiar? Think of those trying so hard to find the power of God for their lives; seeking method after method for unleashing God's power but never quite able to pick the lock behind which the power of God must surely reside. Finally, in frustration they quit, assuming that somehow the power is too elusive, meant for some select few, or for people in the distant past, or only accessed through some method they cannot figure out.

It is no small thing for disciples of Jesus to admit that they do not experience the power of God in their lives. It is, in a way, humiliating. Yet, promises of power are woven inextricably throughout the New Testament, reminding us of the resource God has provided every Christian—the one resource necessary to live victoriously.



*Promises of power are woven inextricably throughout the New Testament*

Many of the common perceptions of power will do little more than confuse us as we search for God's power. Human ideas of power almost exclusively deal with physical strength, physical resources, or demonstrations of explosive potential. When we think of power, it is most often power used in some way to achieve one's own desires,

whether it's a bully flexing his muscles, a professor flexing her knowledge, or a businessman flexing his wallet.

God's power has often been misunderstood because we tend to think of it in those ways. In other words, we tend to think of God's power in terms of physical strength, omniscient knowledge, or as a wealth of resources at His disposal. But *the power of God is demonstrated by His ability to accomplish His will in every situation, both real and potential, through any means He chooses in order to glorify Himself.* God's power is centered on His will and His glory. We just need to know where to look.

**His transformative power.** The New Testament is itself an anthology of change—change in people and ultimately change in culture. Christianity didn't begin with powerful people. In the early years of the church, Christians were

unpopular, persecuted, and maligned. Yet, 300 years later the official religion of the Roman Empire was Christianity. If we don't see the power of God here, we are missing it in one of its greatest forms. The power of God poured out on the human heart is an amazing thing to watch. 📖


📖 *The Pharisee Saul who became the apostle Paul is a story of **tremendous personal change**. Paul himself marvels at the change. "I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus" (1 TIMOTHY 1:13–14 NIV).*

**His power to protect and enable His people to do the impossible.** Remember Daniel? The lions' den was not the only place where his weakness showed the power of God. Daniel was not born with the ability to interpret dreams, but when the time came and the need arose, God displayed His power in giving Daniel an ability that was not natural (DANIEL 2).

How did Peter walk on water with Jesus? Against every law of nature we know, Peter walked on water for a period of time until his faith faltered (MATTHEW 14:22–33). Every one of the apostles of Christ was able to do miracles, which are supernatural events, through the power of Christ in them.

**Resurrection!** There is no greater display of power than to bring back someone who has breathed their last and

been buried for days. To say your final goodbyes to a loved one and then to see them come forth not only into life, but newness of life, glorious life,<sup>1</sup> is power beyond imagination.

 Scripture records several instances of people **coming back from the dead**. Two widows' sons (1 KINGS 17:17-24; LUKE 7:11-17), a young girl (MARK 5:21-43), Lazarus (JOHN 11:1-44), Eutychus (ACTS 20:7-12), an unknown number of people who came back to life at the death of Jesus (MATTHEW 27:51-53), and of course, Jesus Himself (28:1-10).

God's power is shown in a variety of ways. He still works supernaturally; He still changes lives dramatically and permanently, and He influences events to accomplish what we never could on our own. So why aren't we seeing and experiencing more of God's power in our own lives?

One important reason is that *God uses His power on our behalf to accomplish His perfect will*. If we are honest, we are not always open to that particular option. We can't order God's power in our life like a sandwich at a café. His power is ultimately a reflection of His will, so seeking His power in our lives is really seeking His perfect will. We ask Him to intervene in our lives in powerful ways when we encounter obstacles to accomplishing His will.<sup>2</sup> Only through Christ is our greatest weakness the gateway to God's greatest demonstration of power in our lives.

 God has told us what **His will for us** is. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:3; 5:18; 1 Peter 2:15.

## Discovering God's Power Points

If we are going to seek God's power in our lives, we first need to understand why He has promised to give us power and for what purpose.

**To glorify God:** Actually, it is God's will for every person who ever lived, and for all of creation, to glorify Him. Everything that was made was made for the glory of God. Every other aspect of God's will flows out of this great and divine purpose. "For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him" (COLOSSIANS 1:16). Everything God created, including us, was designed to declare His glory.

**Our personal transformation and holiness:** One of the saddest things in the world is a Christian who is convinced that he or she will never change. Our sin nature is powerful, and it takes nothing short of God's power in our lives to gain the victory. It requires nothing less than the resurrection power of Christ. But because transformation is God's will for us, He will provide the power if we ask for it (ROMANS 8:18–30; 1 CORINTHIANS 15:35–50; 2 CORINTHIANS 3:7–18).

We cannot be perfect; and He is not calling us to be perfect, but to be holy. Yet it remains a scriptural pillar

that God desires that we be like Him—holy!<sup>18</sup> Does it not make sense that God wants His power in our lives to give us victory over sin? (SEE 1 CORINTHIANS 10:1–13). Isn't this one of the truly great and tangible results of the power of God in lives? (SEE ROMANS 6). Aren't we amazed when people who were powerless victims of sin, and whose lives were literally destroyed by sin, are suddenly and powerfully transformed into holy people? And be honest, don't you wish you were like them?

📖 **Holiness** means to be set apart, to be reserved for special purposes. It also means without fault or blemish.

**Power for witness:** Jesus said that we would *receive* power. I think for many years I felt Acts 1:8 should read, "And you will *feel* powerful when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and thus it will be easy and natural to be My witnesses." When the *feelings* of power didn't come, I thought that I had an excuse to be absent. I was waiting for a feeling of certainty that God had never promised. Yet frequently in my uncertainty (and very often to my complete surprise), He used me to lead someone to Him. His power was obviously at work.

**Growing Faith:** Our faith in God is strengthened when we can unmistakably see His work in our lives. Furthermore, we need to see works that are so demonstrably powerful that we recognize them as His

work. God wants our faith in Him to grow exponentially. He is fully prepared to demonstrate His power to confirm our faith in both His character and His strength (EPHESIANS 4:7–16; PHILIPPIANS 1:3–8; COLOSSIANS 2:6–7).

### **Strength in times of difficulty:**

There are those moments in life when everything seems to be against us. All our efforts to fix the problem have failed, solutions elude us, resources are unavailable, and we get one closed door after another. Finally, we realize that our human resources have failed us and that nothing short of God's intervention will sustain us. <sup>¶</sup> It is God's strength that holds us up when we can barely stand (PSALM 3:5; 41:3; 55:22).



*He is fully prepared to demonstrate His power to confirm our faith in both His character and His strength.*

<sup>¶</sup> *The life of David is full of examples of **God's strength in difficult times**. Beyond the strength to defeat Goliath, God sustained David when he had to flee for his life from Saul and later from his own son Absalom.*

**Faithfulness to the end:** In each of our lives there are times when we're not sure we can continue on in our walk with Christ. We have grown so weary, so discouraged, so

hopeless of any real lasting change that we can't bring ourselves to try anymore. In these moments we most need to know that being faithful to the end is God's will for each of us, and as such, that He promises to bring us the power to finish our race (PHILIPPIANS 1:6; 1 THESSALONIANS 5:23; JAMES 1:4).

## **Expectations!**

Contrary to what you might believe, you have experienced God's power in many ways in your own life—whether you believe in God or not. But because God provides for us without sending a text or leaving a voicemail telling us so, we don't often recognize His provision when it comes.

First of all, if you are a follower of Christ, God displayed His power in your salvation. In 1 Corinthians 1:18–19, Paul writes, "For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the cleverness of the clever I will set aside.'" No one is saved because he figures out God. We are saved because God interrupts our blind wanderings, even our antagonism toward Him, and draws us to Himself.

God works in powerful ways: an answered prayer, provision, giving us what we desperately needed, direction, healing, or hope when we were hopeless. We



rejoice at what we received—but we must be careful to remember from whom it came. *An observant Christian becomes a grateful Christian, and a grateful Christian becomes an even more observant Christian, for they have learned how intimately God is involved in their lives.* When a person finally learns how intimately God is involved in their lives, gratitude is the only appropriate response.

Accept your weakness! That is where God's power will be most visible in your life. *Remember* those things for which God promises His power; *ask* Him to demonstrate His power in your weakness, and then *wait* for God to show His power. Do it frequently. Make it a habit. Learn to rest in His power. And when you begin to see and experience it—give Him the glory.

This isn't just a new idea; it is a new way of living. Hopefully you'll see it's the life God has always wanted you to live—a life of dependence.

Embracing our weakness. Finally, it makes sense.



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