

## A Time to Mourn – Lesson 2

# Sufficient Grace

*“My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.”*  
*II Corinthians 12:9*

### The Example of Paul

- Paul writes to the church of his personal highs and lows in II Corinthians 12.
- Paul tells of someone (I am convinced he is speaking of himself) in vs. 2-4 that got a glimpse of heavenly things.
- But then Paul talks in vs. 7 about the “the thorn in his flesh” that brought him low and humbled him.
- Paul begged God to remove this “thorn” yet God did not.
- Instead, God revealed to him something great – grace and strength.

### Sufficient Grace

- Grace is that special, unmerited favor that God bestows upon unworthy men.
- It is God’s love and care expressed in our times of need.
- But here it is described as “sufficient”.
  - God is giving grace “as needed” to meet the need.
- This is consistent with He who gives us “our daily bread” (Matthew 6:11).
- We may want a cabinet or storehouse full of bread, but God supplies our need for the time being.
- “God told Paul that His grace was *sufficient*. That means grace would supply everything that Paul needed – not so the pain would go away, but so he could accept it and still move forward.” – Bill Prater, *How to Get Through What You’ll Never Get Over*
- God may not remove the grief of mourning, but He does work to help us through it.

### Strength in Weakness

- God knows our weakness and frailty, and through His grace provides power to us.
- The burdens we cannot carry, He enables us to. In doing so, He reveals His greatness to us and through us.
- “Some people say that God never brings a trial into our lives that we cannot bear. That isn’t really true. God brings lots of trials into our lives that are greater than our human strength and endurance can handle. It’s more accurate to say that God never brings a trial into our lives that His grace cannot strengthen us to bear.” – Bill Prater