

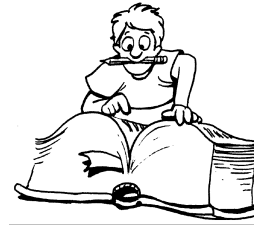


I BELIEVE

If you have never believed in Jesus Christ as your Savior, take a moment now to know that God the Father loves us and sent His Son, Jesus Christ, down from heaven to become a man to pay the penalty for all of our sins and not only ours but for the sins of the whole world. He was without sin and He paid the price for everyone's sins on the cross. After that He was buried in a tomb and then rose again from the dead. If you believe in Jesus, you will spend eternity with God in heaven forever and no one can snatch you out of God's hands! This is God's TRUTH.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

Go to allaboardgodstrain.org and read *The Ten Problem Solving Devices*.



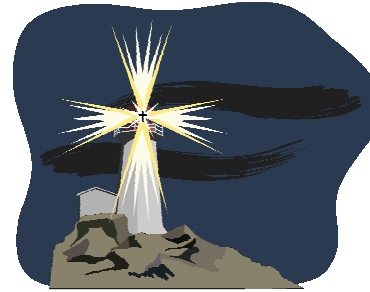
2 Corinthians 12:10 Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults [people testing], with distresses [thought testing], with persecutions [system testing], with difficulties [disasters], for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong [divine power].

Once we understand how many "weeds" God needs to get out of our spiritual gardens (lives), we can understand how much work He needs to do to change us - to make us spiritually strong. From birth we are growing "weeds"; they all sprout from arrogance or self-centeredness. God puts us on a course to squeeze out the arrogance, etc. God has to get rid of our "weeds" and nourish the fruit on the vine.

God created Paul to show us a totally rotten sinner and then how He changed him to a mature believer in the image of Jesus Christ. There were a lot of steps along the way. What did the Lord do in the life of Paul to turn him around? **Acts 9:16 For I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake.**

Both Abraham and Paul had areas in their souls where they were strong - human strength. God had to make them weak in their human strength so they would rely on His strength. If there is one place where we don't rely on the Lord it is in our areas of strength. God knows that! He's going to squash the things we are holding onto that are counterfeits to the life of Christ. This life is about being adopted by God the Father and His training of us to become mature believers. Whatever things we think are gain to us have to be put away if they are getting in the way of God's job. God is working things out in the spiritual realm so we can grow in our spiritual lives.

Pee Wee Light



Lighthouse Bible Church

God Gives Us Strength

Taken from Pastor John's lessons on 3-29, 4-1-2012

Lesson #42



2 Corinthians 12:9 And He has said to me [Paul], “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.