

MESSAGE FROM THE WORD

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

October 5, 2008

But he (the Lord) 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 about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

- The Lion and the Thorn

God's Amazing Grace Is Sufficient

1. A Thorny Situation

- Paul's

2 Corinthians 12:7-8 To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me.

- Jesus'

39 Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." 42 He went away a second time and prayed.... 44 So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. (Matthew 26)

- Yours and Mine

2. A Thorny Solution

- For Jesus

*39 Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. **Yet not as I will, but as you will.**"*

29 and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. Matthew 27:29

46 About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" -which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46

- For Paul

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 about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

- For You and Me

3. Thorny Thanks

- From Paul to Jesus

10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

- From You and Me to Jesus

Thank God for the T_____, the ones T_____ A_____,

And the ones that R_____