

The Paradox of Weakness

Romans 5:6-11; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Bottom Line: Jesus made himself helpless to help helpless people.

Introduction:

Our culture celebrates the strong and powerful.

If we are honest, the vast majority of us feel more weak than strong.

For some of us, we are in a pit, and we do not know if/how we will be able to get out.

Truth:

In your moment of weakness, you might want to hear about the almighty power of
God, but there is an even greater truth that may surprisingly encourage you today
God became weak too. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-31.
God became weak too. Acad I communans 1.10-51.

Application & Conclusion:

Jesus made himself helpless to help helpless people. He became to us our wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption when he joined us in our suffering. He saw our brokenness. He faced our injustice. He felt our weakness. But more than that, He took our place!

When we were at our weakest with no hope for redemption, God sent help from Heaven by putting on flesh, not only living *our* life, but also dying *our* death that we owed because of our sin. We could not help ourselves, not even through strength and wisdom. That is why God helped us Himself.

So then, all our boasting is in the Lord, because in his death, we found life. In his weakness, we were made strong. In his suffering, we were given peace. By his stripes, we have been healed. By his wounds, we have been set free.

You may have trouble believing in a God who made himself weak, but without the weakness of God, none of us would ever walk in the power of God. The story of the crucified and risen Jesus is the only hope for our story.

Reflection Questions:

1. What does this teach me about God?

2. What does this teach me about me?

3. How do I apply this to my life?