

21 DAYS OF PRAYER

2 Corinthians 12:7-9 (ESV)

⁷ So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹ 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 of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Big Idea

For many of us, habitual, steadfast prayer can be a struggle. There are so many distractions that we allow in that hinders our consistency in prayer. In today's lesson, we learned three things we can do to overcome those distractions. First, we can be honest with God about our attitudes. If we stop pretending and are honest with God on how we feel, He can begin to work in the middle of our weakness. Second, we must focus on the Truth. By centering your heart on God's Word, your fleshly desires are weakened. Third, we have to discipline ourselves to pray anyway. God rewards those who are patient in doing good!

Discussion Questions

- What impacted you most about today's video teaching?
- Why is Psalm 139:23-24 a good thing to pray when we don't feel like praying?
- Do you agree with the teaching that if you focus on obeying the Word of God your desires will more readily conform to God's will? Why or why not?
- Think about our last lesson on the Lord's prayer. How does praying, "Thy kingdom come" counter our emotions?
- Read Hebrews 11:6. How does this verse reinforce today's teaching?

Prayer Focus

Today's lesson requires that we assess our attitudes. Focus today on Psalm 139 and be honest with God about whatever is hindering you today.

Next Step

If you are not already practicing a regular time alone in prayer, use this 21 Days emphasis as your starting block! Commit today to schedule a prayer time and make every effort to consistently meet with the Lord.