

At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12 Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts – Revelation Unit 6, Lesson 28

# Letters About Weakness

Lesson Aim: To know God's strength is shown in our weakness.

# **THE WELCOME**

MEET & GREET: Where do you keep your favorite treasure?

**GAME:** Pots of Treasure

## **THE WORSHIP** THE SPIRIT WHO SHOWS US

Read Worship Scripture: Romans 8:26

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform the Mail Call script or read storybook.

## **THE WORD** LETTERS ABOUT WEAKNESS

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God led Paul and the writer of Hebrews to write perseverance.

Today, we will read from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians. Point to Corinth. Paul explains how God uses our weaknesses to show His power. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: 2 Corinthians 4:6-9, 16-18; 12:7-10, Jude 1:24-25. We will begin with 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. Find It First. Pray. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; 4:6-9, 16-18. Highlight Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 4:7. Read Jude 1:24-25.

### THE WAY SEEING GOD'S STRENGTH

How many times did Paul ask God to take away the "thorn in his flesh"? (3.) This "thorn" showed Paul's weakness. Did God take it away? (No.) You may have a struggle. It might be a body part weakened from sickness or injury, ongoing temptation, or something that makes life difficult. Have you asked God to heal you or take this struggle away? Did God answer your prayer in the way you hoped? Sometimes, His answer comes right away; sometimes, along the way. Sometimes, He will not answer our prayers until we get to heaven, where our weaknesses will be gone forever!

Why do you think Paul was delighted in his weaknesses and hard times? Paul wanted everyone to see God's power and believe in His Son. Paul knew that when we are weak, it is easier for others to know that only God is the one with the power. In that way, our weakness points us and others to God! God is so powerful that He even uses our weaknesses in building His kingdom.

Paul said God put His light into our hearts as a treasure. This light points us and others to Jesus. It shines even brighter when others see God do mighty things through us, even though we are weak. Display clay pot. God's light is like this beautiful cross and our hearts are like this breakable clay pot. If we were perfectly strong like a fancy treasure chest with a lock, others might only notice the treasure chest. But, when an old clay pot holds an amazing treasure like this cross, what do you notice most of all? In the same way, others will notice God's power even more in our weakness.

#### CHRIST CONNECTION:

Over 700 years before Paul compared each believer to a jar of clay with God's treasure inside, Isaiah explained who made us that way. Reveal Isaiah 64:8. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

A potter is an artist who molds and shapes clay into jars or pots. God has given each of you strengths and weaknesses. No matter what your weaknesses are, the treasure in your heart is God's perfect light that points you and others to Jesus.

Have you ever felt you were not good enough because of your weakness? Who did Jude say keeps us from falling? (Jesus.) What are we like then when we are presented to God? (Faultless and full of joy.) Jude praised God with words like glory, majesty, power, and authority. What words would you use to praise God?

**THE GOLDEN BOWL:** Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

#### **FINAL FIVE MINUTES:**

- TREASURE TREAT: New Testament Postcard about weakness, stamp or sticker of a clay pot
- W<sup>3</sup> BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #27
- OFFERING OF ART: Your favorite thing about today and something special about the letters from the New Testament you just learned
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

#### **GOT TIME?**

**SNACK:** Pot Full of Treasure **GAME:** Which One Is Stronger? **CRAFT:** Care Package—Treasure Pots

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: New Testament Line, Next Book,

Light My Path, Pass the Word! **BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW**