



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
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, Greece. **In this letter, 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. **We will begin with**

2 Corinthians 12:7-10. Find It First. Pray. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.

Read 2 Corinthians 4:6-9, 16-18. Highlight Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 4:7.

THE WAY SEEING GOD'S STRENGTH

How many times did Paul ask God to take away the "thorn in his flesh"? (Three times.) This "thorn" showed Paul had a weakness. Did God answer Paul's prayer by taking his weakness away? (No.) You may have something that is a struggle for you. It might be part of your body that is weakened from sickness or injury. Maybe there is an ongoing temptation or something that makes your life difficult. Have you ever asked God to heal you or take this struggle away? Did God answer your prayer in the way you hoped? Sometimes, God's answer to a prayer comes right away; sometimes, along the way. And sometimes, God will not answer our prayers until we get to heaven, where all 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. Let others see that light and know that Jesus is the powerful one, not us!

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
- **DAILY WAY CHALLENGE**
- **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

DISCUSSION: More Letters About Weakness

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: New Testament Line, Next Book, Light My Path, Pass the Word!

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW