

# HOW TO GLORY IN INFIRMITIES

## LEARNING TO REJOICE IN THE LORD

*“Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities,  
that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”*

~ 2 Corinthians 12:9

### 1. Comforted vs. Rejoicing

- a. To comfort is to strengthen – 1 Thess 5:11,14, ex. Gal 1:4
- b. To glory is to boast, to take pride in – Gal 6:14 (people take pride in their strengths)
- c. Paul says gladly he would rather glory in his infirmities, and rejoice in his sufferings
- d. How can we possibly glory, be glad, and take pleasure in distress?

### 2. How to Glory

- a. Suffering is personal, it is fleshly, and it is immediate.
- b. If you are damaged and overwhelmed, **first**, seek comfort from God – 2Co 2:7-8
- c. Glorifying requires strength, being filled with comfort – 2 Cor 7:4, Phil 4:13
- d. Glorifying requires we know, delight, do the Lord’s will – 1 Cor 1:30-31, 10:31; Col 1:11
- e. Glorifying and rejoicing requires seeing how it is helpful to God, others, you

### 3. How Your Infirmary is Useful

- 1) Consolation of others – It is the same suffering others face - 2 Cor 1:4-6
- 2) We learn to trust in God – We must learn to have no confidence in the flesh – 2Co1:9
- 3) Others are emboldened – when they see people who take it seriously - Phil 1:12-14
  - a. When the poor/weak/sick are fighting, the strong are left with no excuse.
- 4) You can know the Lord – the fellowship of his sufferings - Phil 3:10, Col 1:24-27
  - a. Paul wants to be the saviour of Christ, not himself - 2 Cor 2:15-16
- 5) The power of Christ rests on you – Chris explained how grace is sufficient - 2 Cor 12:9
  - a. When you are weak, Christ is strong – 2 Cor 12:10, Rom 4:20, 2 Tim 2:1
  - b. Paul pleasures in the power of Christ not himself - 2Cor 11,11:18,11:30, 2Co 12:5
  - c. Your weakness can beget the crucified life – 2 Cor 13:4, Gal 2:20
- 6) Ministry work can happen – “*the fruit of my labour*” - Phil 1:22, 2 Tim 3:11
  - a. Paul counts it a joy to be sacrificed on the service of others faith – Phil 1:17
- 7) You can be an ensample – To suffer it with joy - 1 Thess 1:6-7, 2 Cor 8:2, Phil 1:27-30
- 8) To exercise our faith – Without tribulation, hope can grow dim - Rom 5:1-5, 1 Cor 13:7
- 9) Allows others to communicate to your need – Phil 4:10, 14-16; Gal 4:13-15
- 10) Allows others to exercise their faith – when you suffer it tests others - 1 Thess 3:3, 3:9
- 11) People can get saved – “*endure afflictions*”, “*endure all things*” – 2 Tim 2:10, 4:5
  - a. The longer we suffer, the longer God is offering grace freely – 2 Pet 3:15

It is no secret that where the church suffers, it grows.

This is because the Christian has hope, and learns to glory in infirmities.