

8-4-19

Sleight of Hand 2 Corinthians 11:30-12:10

*Kid's sermon: "You are my strength when I am weak"*

It was college speech class. Can I escape?

It was a conversation with my brother. Can I speak?

It was at camp. Can I lead?

My weakness is on display. Make them think you're strong.

Interview questions: I'm a perfectionist, workaholic etc...

The folly of worldly assessments of value

Saul leaned into power and strength, Paul leaned into weakness

Super/false Apostles: Lord their status over

Trained speakers (Edward Everette and Lincoln),

2 Cor 11:20-21 Flaunt heredity, enslaves, exploit, take advantage of you, brag about experiences, Exerts power over you - slaps you Paul: We were too weak for that.

Example: Televangelists – "God will double your portion"

Irony: *Scott Hafemann* Paul- Worldly boasting is foolish

Super/false Apostles - Weakness boasting is foolish

Boasting about experiences vs Suffering

"You run to the careless I am care filled"

What we do is for your strengthening.

I could boast as they do: I'm Hebrew, Visions and Revelations

I have suffered for my faith and cared for the church in ways that humiliate me not glorify me 11:23-29

Mistreatment 5 flog, 3 rods, Stoned, 3 ship wrecks

Danger: rivers, bandits, Jew, Gentile Who is weak I burn

Self-directed boasting lifts up self, godly boasting lifts up Christ.

The thorn for humility keeps the focus on God's grace not our strength

Can you be satisfied with my grace in the midst of your trials?

Not about experiences but emptiness/availability

Goal: Accept your limitations but don't avoid them. Lean into

God as you lean into fear, and anxiety. Trust God who transforms dirt.

Cultivate a culture that permits growth Don't fear failure or false apostles

*"What The Lord Has Done In Me"*