

THE UNWANTED GIFT OF WEAKNESS

The allure of the strong leader

The beauty of the weak leader

BIBLE: A FRIEND THAT GOES BEFORE US

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

"IT WASN'T SUPPOSED
TO BE THIS WAY."

Discovering grace in the "torment"

Defining weakness

'Feelings are notorious liars,
especially in matters of faith.'

EUGENE PETERSON

4 GIFTS THAT WEAKNESS BRINGS

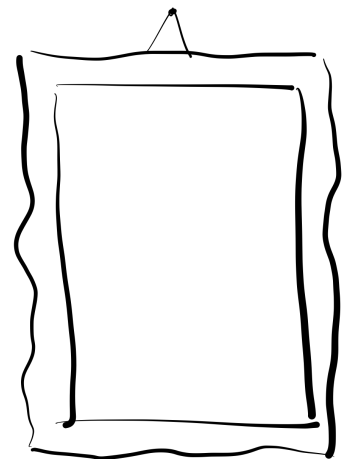
1. THE GIFT OF PAUSING TO LOOK IN THE MIRROR

"I am not the Messiah."

'God, in his grace, has used addiction to shatter my moralistic understanding of the Christian faith and force me to accept the gospel. I am not a faithful man. That's why I need a Saviour. I cannot live victoriously on my own. That's why I need a Helper and brothers. I cannot keep my promises to God—the very act of making them is delusional—but God will keep his promises to me.'

NATE LARKIN

"Three times I pleaded with the Lord..."



2. THE GIFT OF REVISITING YOUR JOB DESCRIPTION

An opportunity for strategic neglect

'I am deeply convinced that the Christian leader of the future is called to be completely irrelevant and to stand in this world with nothing to offer but his or her own vulnerable self.'

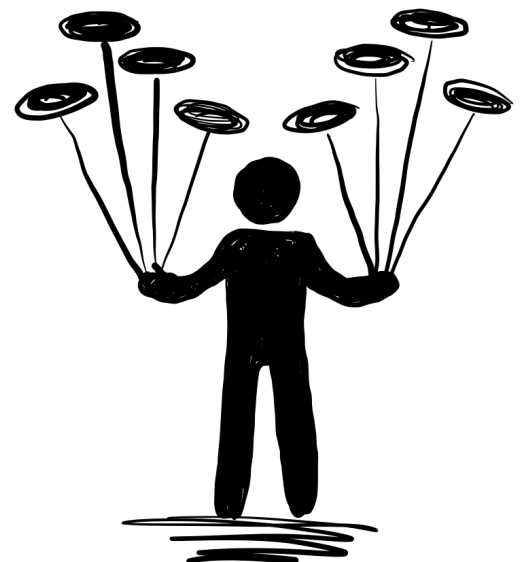
**HENRI
NOUWEN**

The dangers of "sanctified narcissism"

'And yet deep within there is also the whisper of shalom for our own lives and for our relationships.'

**CHUCK
DE GROAT**

The freedom of remembering God's call



3. THE GIFT OF NEEDING OTHERS

Independence is so 2019

Surround yourself with people who you can draw strength from.

**RENI
EDDO-LODGE**

"The solidarity of the shaken"

Importance of Team

'The term vulnerable comes from a Latin word meaning "to wound." We are *wound-able*. We can be hurt and destroyed, in body, mind, and soul. All of us, every last man, woman, and child, bear this kind of vulnerability till our dying day.'

**TISH
HARRISON
WARREN**

'Vulnerability' & 'Victimhood'

STEP ONE



STEP TWO



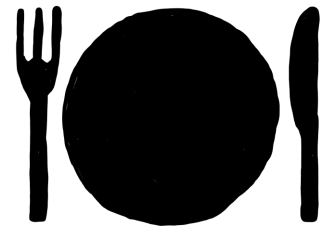
STEP THREE



4. THE GIFT OF RE-EVALUATING SUCCESS

Disappointment and Defensiveness

"I will build my church..."



Non-anxious presence

What comes after me?

A place for people to go with their weakness

'People may admire you for your strengths - they connect with you through your weaknesses'

**CRAIG
GROESCHEL**

FURTHER READING

These are some books that you may find helpful:

- *'When Narcissism Comes to Church'* by Chuck de Groat
- *'Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership'* by Ruth Haley Barton
- *'Broken by Fear, Anchored by Hope'* by Rob Merchant
- *'How to Lead when you don't know where you're going'* by Susan Beaumont
- *'The Book of Waking up'* by Seth Haines
- *'Learning to Walk in the Dark'* by Barbara Brown Taylor
- *'Dominion'* by Tom Holland