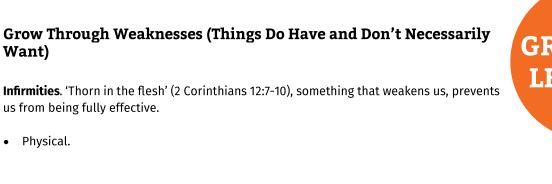
WEAKNESSES





Psychological.

Circumstantial.

Paul moves to rejoicing because such weaknesses:

Cultivate the appropriation of grace, 'my grace is sufficient for you.' (12:9).

Facilitate dependence on God, 'so that Christ's power may rest [literally, pitch its tent] on me'. (12:9).

Ensure glory ascribed to God, 'If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.' (11:30).

WHAT ARE THE INFIRMITIES YOU CURRENTLY FACE?



WEAKNESSES

Ordinariness. 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

- Thank God for call to ministry (1:27-28) 'God chose'.
- Thank God for whatever extraordinary gifts/strengths you may have.
- Thank God for ordinariness.

Aim for gratitude, which undermines pride and divests ourselves of independence.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO EMBRACE BOTH ORDINARINESS AND GIFTEDNESS?



'God can achieve his purposes either through the absence of human power and resources, or the abandonment of reliance on them. All through history God has chosen and used nobodies, because their unusual dependence on him made possible the unique display of his power and grace. He chose and used somebodies only when they renounced dependence on their natural abilities and resources.' Oswald Chambers