

Get Real Part 8 – Real People Still Have Struggles

2 Corinthians 12:6-10

The Big Idea: Real People Still Have Struggles, but God's Grace Never Leaves

As Christians, we sometimes feel that once we accept Jesus into our lives, it should be smooth sailing from there on out. But if we're honest with ourselves, we all know that's not how life works. We still face struggles, challenges, and trials.

The enemy will use your struggles to attack you:

- Attack your faith and testimony
- Attack your confidence in Christ
- Attack your assurance of salvation
- Attack your worthiness to be used by God

Don't believe the lies of the enemy when in the struggle. You can choose to listen to what the accuser says or to listen to what God says.

You're struggle is NOT:

- Your story
- Your identity
- The defining factor of your life
- Your destiny
- Your destination

You are not your struggle... You are a child of God! You are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus – even when you struggle!

What do struggles show us?

1. The Presence of the struggle is proof that you are In Christ

Your struggle is not an indication that God is angry at you or punishing you, struggles are part of the growing process and show that you aren't satisfied with your sin.

There's a difference between struggling with sin and outright living in rebellious sin with no spiritual conscience.

2. The Presence of the struggle is proof that you haven't given up

- We must learn to rely on to God's grace and not give up
- We must learn to rely on to God's promises and not give up
- We must learn to rely on God's sovereignty to work it out and never give up

3. The Presence of the struggle doesn't cancel out the presence of Christ

We can boast in our weakness because of the presence of Christ gives us strength, hope, and victory.

What to do in the struggle:

1. Renew your mind to the Gospel
2. Surrender the struggle to God – over and over again
3. Stop fighting (your flesh) and start feeding (your Spirit)