

SPIRIT *Led*

WHEN GOD MAKES ME MORE LIKE HIM

Turning Frustration Into Fruit

Pastor Doug Heisel – June 21, 2020

Galatians 5:13-14 — For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity to indulge your flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law can be summed up in a single commandment, namely, “You must love your neighbor as yourself.”

Galatians 5:22-23 — But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

2 Corinthians 12:6-10 — Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say, or because of these surpassingly great revelations.

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, “**My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.**”

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. **For when I am weak, then I am strong.**

1. **BELIEVE** that GOD will often LEVERAGE rather than remove the source of my frustration.
2. **BRING** your frustrations to the Lord until you get a WORD from HIM.

Life Group Discussion & Questions

BREAKING THE ICE: What is one thing you miss doing (or missed doing) that COVID-19 and Shelter In Place temporarily took away. What was one of the thing that frustrated you? Explain.

DIGGING IN:

1. Read the verses from the other side of the notes. Even though we don’t know specifically what Paul was dealing with, list some of the ways he describes what was frustrating him.
2. What are some common frustrations (even “thorns”) we face?

3. Review and discuss the two main points from Sunday's message and any other take-away God brought to your mind. Let your observations and applications that you share with each other be "iron sharpening iron."

BRINGING IT HOME: Keep these notes somewhere in front of you. Apply these thoughts throughout this series. Watch how the Lord uses your dependance on Him to bring greater maturity and wholeness into your life and relationships.