

10/23 | DUMB THINGS SMART CHRISTIANS BELIEVE: d?

"God will never give you more than you can handle."

And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

—2 Corinthians 12:9, NASB

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Consider the quote on the right. What is a situation that feels overwhelming in your life right now?

"I know God will not give me anything I can't handle. I just wish that He didn't trust me so much."

—Anonymous
2. In what types of situations have you heard the phrase: "God will never give you more than you can handle"? What was the response?
3. Is it comforting to know God doesn't expect you to handle situations alone? How so?
4. People in the Bible reacted differently when God gave them more than they could handle. In the sermon we considered the Apostle Paul and read about his begging God for help and battling his boasting and pride. Consider the following biblical stories, share your observations, and then answer the questions following:
 - Abraham | Interpreting God's promise his own way.
Genesis 15:3-4, 16:1-2, 17:17-19, 18:18
 - Moses | A micromanaging workaholic.
Exodus 18:13-23

- Samson | Fighting first and asking questions later.
Judges 14:5-7, 16:20-22, 28-30
- Jonah | Hiding... the one who almost got away.
Jonah 1:1-3, 17, 2:10
- Peter | Jumping in feet first and then getting cold feet.
Matthew 14:28-31

4. In each case, these men could not handle God's plan alone. How did God use the situations to show His grace and/or His power?
5. When faced with more than you can handle, what is your first instinct? How do you handle overwhelming situations?
6. Of ANY Bible character, which do you resemble the most in overwhelming situations? How so?
7. On the surface, Philippians 4:13 might make believers think they can handle anything God sends their way. How would you encourage believers who think this? What verses might you use?

TAKE AWAY:

Identify areas of weakness in your life where you need God's grace.