

grace is enough

Isaac Dailey, Family Pastor
April 27 & 28, 2019

Valley Church
Grace is Enough

2 Corinthians 1:8-9

1. THE _____ OF UNBEARABLE PRESSURE.

In regard to his circumstances, Paul relates a story of a time he clearly felt that his burdens were beyond his ability to handle. Note carefully what he said in 2 Corinthians 1:8 — *“For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came to us in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life.”*

2. THE _____ OF UNBEARABLE PRESSURE.

The question that comes to mind may be, “If God does allow us to have burdens greater than we can bear, WHY WOULD HE DO THAT?” After all, He loves us passionately — so what possible good reason could there be in Him allowing such a thing? The apostle Paul continues and answers that question in the next verse, 2 Corinthians 1:9 — *“Indeed, we had the sentence of death with ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead.”*

3. THE _____ OF UNBEARABLE PRESSURE.

Know that although your Father may at times allow you to experience a burden greater than your ability to endure, He will carry it for you. In fact, He will carry you! When we feel like we can't go on, the key is to cast our cares on Him. After all, He loves us and will sustain us until the crisis passes. In the meantime, we can rest in His arms. We can know that there's nothing wrong with our faith, commitment to Him, or His love for us. It's life, and life sometimes hurts unbearably. But even when it does, He's there with us to hold us and see that we pass safely through the hard times.

Life Application: *“God's grace is enough; it's all I need. His strength comes into its own in my weakness. The weaker I get, the stronger I become.”* (2 Corinthians 12:9-10, MSG)

Questions for Life Groups and Personal Reflection:

Personal Life:

1. Has it ever seemed that the whole world has come crashing in on you, and that nothing else really seems to matter? Share if you are willing...

Ponderings:

2. Take a moment to ponder this truth: Grace is the power of God in the middle of unbearable pressure. Discuss...
3. What do you think Jesus meant by “becoming like a child”? What are characteristics of a child? How does a child react through challenging situations?

Promptings:

4. Read **2 Corinthians 1:8-11** as a group. What type of hope can you find in this text? What practical measures can be taken in order to experience this kind of hope and deliverance in the face of trial? Be practical and specific.