

#3 STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS



A mature Christian finds their strength in God alone. They learn to accept and embrace their human frailty, inabilities and limitations, and their need for help from others. They recognise the brokenness and hurts they carry and they admit their own sin and failures. Their boast is on the Lord, and his power at work in our weakness.

CHARACTER TO CULTIVATE

AFFECTIONS



Q2 *In what ways are you experiencing...*

- LONGING FOR HEAVEN**, the promise of resurrection.
- DELIGHT IN GOD'S STRENGTH**, appreciating His power.

Q3 *What false idols might be getting in the way?*

THOUGHTS



Q3 *How is God helping you to develop...*

- EMBRACING WEAKNESS**, not ashamed of inability.
- BOASTING IN GOD**, looking to magnify His strength.

Q5 *What unhelpful thinking is tripping you up?*

PRAYERS



Q6 *Do you experience...*

- CONFESSION**, coming to God in failure and shame.
- LAMENT**, crying out to God over what is wrong & broken.

Q7 *What makes it hard for you to pray this way?*

BEHAVIOURS



Q7 *Are you seeing growth in these marks of godliness...*

- MEEKNESS**, recognising and identifying with the lowly ones.
- APOLOGY**, able to own up to mistakes and seek to rectify.

Q9 *In what contexts is this hardest for you?*

TRAINING EXPERIENCES

3.1

READ & DISCUSS

Work through a recommended Bible study or book, planning accountability & action steps.

3.2

GODLY EXAMPLE

Meet with a faithful and experienced Christian to hear how they have dealt with disappointment and failure.

3.3

REFLECTION ON WEAKNESS

Listen to [a message on "Strength in Weakness"](#), and reflect on the ways God is revealing His strength to you.

3.4

ON SUFFERING

Design a teaching program on "God and Suffering".



But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:7

CONVICTIONS TO DEVELOP

1. GOD	Trinity & Person of God	Divine Attributes	Evidence for God	Answering the Problem of Evil		
2. CREATION	Created Order & Goodness	Providence & Common Grace	Christianity & Science	Christianity & Conservation	Christianity & the Arts	Christianity & Industry
3. HUMANITY	Image of God	Gender and Sexuality	Work & Worship	Sin, Curse & Depravity	Christianity & Psychology	Christianity & Technology
4. JUDGMENT	Holiness & Divine Wrath	Satan & Demonic Power	Hell & Eternal Judgment	The Fate of the Lost	Powerlessness of Religion	
5. SCRIPTURE	Necessity of Revelation	Bible as God's Word	Interpretation via Gospel	OT Fulfilment in Christ	Bible Reliability	Power of the Gospel
6. CHRIST	Eternal Sonship	Full Humanity & Full Divinity	Perfect Obedience	Substitutionary Atonement	Implications of Resurrection	Historicity of Jesus
7. NEW CREATION	Reign & 2nd Coming	Heaven & Restoration	Kingdom of God	Tension of Now-Not-Yet	Ethics & Decision-making	
8. HOLY SPIRIT	Spirit of the Son	Indwelling of Believers	Gifting for Ministry	Error of Experientialism		
9. SALVATION	Knowing the Gospel	Predestination & New Birth	Repentance & Faith	Justification & Assurance	Sanctification & Ongoing Sin	Trials & Perseverance
10. CHURCH	Body of Christ & Household	Baptism & Membership	Communion & Unity	Ministry & Service	Local & Global Mission	

RESOURCES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

BIBLE STUDIES



Bible Books to Read and Carefully Meditate on
JOB, 2 CORINTHIANS, PHILIPPIANS, ACTS



The Eye of the Storm (Job, Matthias Media)
Be humbled and helped by journeying with Job through his suffering, finding life and hope in God alone.



2 Corinthians (MacArthur Bible Study)
A series of deeply encouraging lessons from the Apostle Paul in learning humility and dependence on God.

BOOKS & ARTICLES



How Long O Lord? (Don Carson)
Explores the anguish of suffering and evil and equips the believer to face the real trials and tests of faith.



The Freedom of Self-Forgetfulness (Tim Keller)
A short book on leaving behind the world's opinions and your own view of yourself, to cling to God's perspective.



When I Don't Desire God (John Piper)
This book helps people find their way back to Christian joy when they are going through the darkest times.



Living Without Worry (Timothy Lane)
A pastoral help for those overwhelmed with worry.



A Foot in Two Worlds (John Chapman)
Wise encouragement on the struggles of living in a fallen world, stumbling and failing and waiting for heaven.