

## **Dig Deeper @Home – “Real and Authentic”**

### **Complement to lesson on 4/21/24 – “Strength in Weakness”**

#### **ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered**

1. Is it easy for you to admit your weaknesses? Why or why not?
2. If you could get rid of one weakness in yourself, what would it be and why?

#### **MEMORIZE – 2 Corinthians 12: 9-10**

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 of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

#### **READ – 2 Corinthians 4**

##### **Questions to ponder/discuss:**

1. Re-scan the text and consider...
  - a. What did the Holy Spirit cause to “jump off the page” as you read?
  - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared? (If so... why might that be?)
  - c. What are the verses revealing about God?
  - d. What are the verses revealing about people?
  - e. In light of these, what needs to change in your life? What are you already doing well?
2. Look throughout chapter 4 and identify actions that are being done to humans.
  - a. What actions do you notice? Who is doing them?
3. Look throughout chapter 4 and identify actions people are doing.
  - a. Are these present in your life?
  - b. What’s keeping you from living these out?
4. Considering your answers in questions 2 and 3, bring these realities before the LORD in prayer and seek His power, His truth and His direction.

## EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – S.W.O.T. Analysis

Take time to do a personal SWOT Analysis. SWOT stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. You can use the box below or write your own. For this exercise, fill out the boxes with regard to being a follower/disciple of Jesus. Strengths and weaknesses are generally internal and opportunities/threats are generally external. For strengths, after you identify them, determine how you use them to bring glory to God. For weaknesses, how are you confessing these and turning to the Lord with them? For opportunities, think about where you live, work, study and play. What opportunities do you have to love others? To point out the Kingdom of Heaven? To tell others about Jesus. For threats, what causes you to stumble in your faith journey, what holds you back? What makes you feel insufficient. Turn these over to God as well in prayer.

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<u>Opportunities</u>	<u>Threats</u>

**SING** (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

God I Look to You - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3u3ZG8ztGEI>

Behold Him - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=izK4kl\\_wmA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=izK4kl_wmA)

I Need Thee Every Hour - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qJ4jIKeT4w>

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EJ5cLiCCOao>

## PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

### **Sending prayer based on the message:**

Father, thank you that you shine your light in my heart. Help me to remain encouraged by this truth as I go this week and rather than lose heart at the challenges of my week, turn to you in praise and glory.