

Better Together... to Overcome Weakness
Week's Reading: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, James 5:13-16
Discussion Guide: December 5, 2021

CHECK UP:

Memory Work Review: As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.
- Proverbs 27:17

How did you apply something from last week's message/discussion?

OPEN:

- In any area of life, how has someone else helped you in an area of weakness?

**READ and ASK: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, 2 Corinthians 12:7b-10, Mark 2:17
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, James 5:13-16, Galatians 6:1-2,**

- In what ways is the church important in running the long-distance race of the Christian life?
- What are some "thorns in the flesh" (aka weaknesses) that we face in the Christian life?
 - o How can weaknesses be a good thing in the long-distance race of the Christian life?
- What does James say to do when we are struggling with sin?
 - o Is this something you have practiced before? How did it go?
 - o Why would confessing to others be of benefit?
 - o How does knowing that Jesus "came for the sick" encourage you in confessing to one another?
- In what particular ways is the church better together to overcome weaknesses?
 - o What does it look like for the church to bear each other's burdens?
 - o Why does it have to be relational and not reliant on church leadership or a few key people?

APPLY:

- How has your concept of "church" been challenged so far in this series?
- Is there one weakness that you have been struggling with that you would be willing to share with the group?

- Read the memory work below. What encourages you the most about that verse and why?
- NEXT STEP(S): Read 2 Timothy 4:7-8. What step into "together" do you need to take to encourage you to finish the race?

Memory Work:

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. - 2 Corinthians 12:9

Next Week's Reading:

Deuteronomy 6:1-9, Ephesians 6:4