

Sermon Notes

2 Corinthians 12:7-10
November 15, 2015

Grace For When We Groan?

I can't imagine the devastation felt by Lina Sandell on that dreadful day she joined her father aboard a ship to travel across Lake Vattern in Sweden. Her dad, a pastor, fell overboard as the ship suddenly lurched, and drowned. Though given to writing some 650 hymns, the event that day shaped a story-song of God's grace. You know the words well... *"Day by day and with each passing moment, strength I find to meet my trials here; trusting in my Father's wise bestowment, I've no cause for worry or for fear. He whose heart is kind beyond all measure gives unto each day what He deems best--lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure, mingling toil with peace and rest."*

- Tell about a trial you went through that has never made sense to you. What have you learned? How did God's wisdom help you (James 1:2-5)?
- Have you ever gone through a Joseph or Job-like trial and God seemed silent? How long did it last? Did you come to a Genesis 50:20 or Job 42:2 understanding?
- Why do you think we don't know what Paul's thorn was? What do you guess it was? (2 Cor 12:7-8) Does it matter?
- Explain how God refusing to remove a thorn is a gift? (See 2 Cor 12:9-10)
- How close to James 1:2-4 have you ever come?
- In your own words, what does it mean that *God's grace is enough*?

Digging Deeper in God's Word

James 1:2-5; Genesis 50:20; Is 55:8-9; Romans 11:33; Romans 8:35-37; Gal 4:13-15; Phil 3:4-8; 4:13; Job 42:2; Eph 3:16

* Pastor Steve McCracken.
Messages are accessible at www.gracepointfamily.com.
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