



*“My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.  
For when I am weak, then I am strong.” 2nd Corinthians 12:9, 10*

A boy began lessons with an old Japanese judo master. The boy was only ten years old and had lost his left arm in a car accident. He was doing well so he couldn't understand why, after three months of training, the master had taught him only one move. “This is the only move you know, but this is the only move you will ever need to know,” the sensei replied.

Several months later, the sensei took the boy to his first tournament. He won all three matches. Still amazed by his success, the boy was now in the finals. He asked the judo master why he had won.

“You won for two reasons,” the sensei answered. “First, you've almost mastered one of the most difficult throws in all of judo. And second, the only known defense for that move is for your opponent to grab your left arm.” The boy's biggest weakness had proven to be his biggest strength.

We don't often view our weaknesses in the same way, but we should – just like Paul prayed fervently to God to remove some affliction unknown to us – what he called “a thorn in the flesh.” Refusing to remove it, God said to Paul, “My grace is sufficient for you. My strength is made perfect in weakness.”

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