

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A SUPERHERO?

It Takes Super Weakness

The Crossings Church - 1 of 5 - 4/15/2018 - Robert Cox

➤ Comic Book Heroes Commonly Have a Weakness

- Clark Kent / Superman _____
- Peter Parker / Spiderman _____
- Hulk / Bruce Banner _____

➤ Holy Book Heroes Commonly Have Weaknesses as Well

- The namesake of Israel / Jacob _____
- The Prince of Egypt / Moses _____
- The Giant Killer / David _____

....I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, ³³who through faith conquered kingdoms... who shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle... **Hebrews 11:32-34** (NIV)

- The Apostle to the Gentiles/ Paul of Tarsus

But God purposely chose what... the world considers weak in order to put powerful men to shame. **1 Corinthians 1:27** (GN)

- The Ultimate Super Hero – Jesus of Nazareth

Although he was crucified in weakness, he now lives by the power of God...
2 Corinthians 13:4a (NLT)

➤ 3 THINGS I MUST DO IF GOD TO TURN MY WEAKNESS INTO STRENGTH.

1. I _____ my weakness.

I came to you in weakness--timid and trembling. **1 Corinthians 2:3** (NLT)

2. I _____ my weakness.

I have cheerfully made up my mind to be proud of my weakness because they mean a deeper experience of the power of Christ. **2 Corinthians 7:10** (Ph)

- My weakness can _____.

...this light and power that now shines within us--is held in perishable containers, that is, in our weak bodies. So everyone can see that our glorious power is from God and is not our own. **2 Corinthians 4:7** (NLT)

- My weakness can _____ God's _____ in my life.

...To keep me from becoming conceited, I am forced to deal with a recurring problem. That problem, Satan's messenger, torments me to keep me from being conceited. ⁸I begged the Lord three times to take it away from me. ⁹But he told me: "My grace is all you need. My power is strongest when you are weak." So I will brag even more about my weaknesses in order that Christ's power will live in me. ¹⁰Therefore, I accept weakness... It's clear that when I'm weak, I'm strong. **2 Corinthians 12:9** (GWT)

God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. **James 4:6** (NIV)

The Lord gives strength to those who aren't proud. **Psalms 147:6** (NIRV)

- My weakness can _____ God's _____.

The eye can't say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you!" ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable ... **1 Corinthians 12:21, 22** (NIV)

- My weakness can give _____ to the _____.

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." This saying is true, and it can be trusted. I was the worst sinner of all! ¹⁶ But since I was worse than anyone else, God had mercy on me and let me be an example of the endless patience of Christ Jesus. He did this so that others would put their faith in Christ and have eternal life. **1 Timothy 1:15-16** (CEV)

3. I _____ my weakness.

- They _____.

He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When others are troubled, so we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. **2 Corinthians 1: 4** (NLT)

...I quit focusing on the handicap and began appreciating the gift. It was a case of Christ's strength moving in on my weakness. Now I take limitations in stride, and with good cheer, these limitations that cut me down to size—abuse, accidents, opposition, bad breaks. I just let Christ take over! And so the weaker I get, the stronger I become. **2 Corinthians 12:9, 10** (MP)