

God at His Weakest

12.21.25

Luke 2:6–7 (CSB)

⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ Then she gave birth to her firstborn son, and she wrapped him tightly in cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Introduction

A. I was listening to a preacher the other day, and what he said burst in my spirit.

1. He said that God, at His weakest, is stronger than I am at my strongest.¹
2. Today, we have heard testimonies of how God moves in our most challenging times.
 - a. From Diagnoses by doctors to working at a hospital.
 - b. To the loss of parents and overcoming obstacles.
 - c. This year, the past couple of years have been years of incredible and painful loss.
3. But God!!!! has been with us all along.

B. The Christmas story is a story of joy in the midst of darkness.

1. It begins with Joseph returning to his family home to be taxed by a foreign power.
2. That's not exactly a Hallmark movie.
3. The Angels have to announce tidings of great joy... because joy and peace were absent.

C. At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of God with us.

1. We don't celebrate happiness, prosperity, our own ability to pull ourselves up by our own boot straps.

¹ Joel Gregory sermon clip

2. We celebrate God, putting on human flesh, embracing weakness, entering darkness to shine the light.

3. Christmas shines a light on the vulnerability of humanity and our need for a Savior.

a. Nothing is more vulnerable than a newborn baby.

b. Yet, God at his weakest is still stronger than we are at our strongest.

D. Fast forward 30 years, and we see Jesus, bleeding to death upon a cross;

1. vulnerable,

2. unable to care for himself,

3. naked,

4. asking John to take care of his mother,

5. Darkness descending, hopes crushing, and the light fading.

6. This was Jesus at his weakest.

E. Yet, through the blood that was shed on that Good Friday, when Jesus looked like he was at His weakest, He was defeating death.

What does Jesus, at his weakest and most vulnerable, teach us this Christmas?

1. When I'm at my weakest, I...Remember God has a Plan.

A. My plans are always conditional.

1. My plans change with my energy, my mood, and circumstances out of my control.

2. My plans are often short-sighted.

B. When I'm at my weakest, I'm reminded that God has a plan.

1. His plan is not motivated by mood or energy.

2. His plan incorporates the future:

a. All of it.

b. Every detail, every bump, every obstacle, every rise, and every fall.

3. God's plan is good, secure, and trustworthy.

C. When I'm at my lowest and weakest moment, I can have hope and joy because God has a plan.

1. And at the right time, God saves.
2. When the world seems at its darkest, a Savior is born.
3. When all seems lost, resurrections take place.
4. If you find yourself at a weak point, I remind us all: God has a plan.

2. When I'm at my weakest, I look up and within.

A. It feels natural to look up.

1. We don't look to trees, mountains, people, or idols because God does not inhabit any of those things.
 - a. But we do look up and beyond the physicality of it all.
 - b. One of my problems is that I become so overwhelmed by my circumstances that I forget to look up.
 - c. My head is down, focused on the problem, and I don't take a moment to look up and worship, pray, and seek God.
 - d. My focus is solely upon myself and my situation, and what I need to do is look up!
2. I forget that my humanity, my frailness, or my tiredness does not hinder God.
3. The Christmas story is a great reminder to look up and remember who God is.
 - a. The one who causes the virgin to give birth.
 - b. The one who leads wise men across hundreds of miles to worship a newborn king.
 - c. The One who threatens kings and kingdoms and pronounces their ends.
 - d. This is the very One that invites all of us to Call upon the name of the Lord and be saved.
4. My brother and sister, when we are at our weakest, lowest, and darkest moments, look up and forget not God.

B. Also look within.

1. Not because you have the strength, discipline, or willpower to change this.
2. But because the Spirit of the Living God lives within us.
3. We don't have to travel to Jerusalem or Bethlehem to worship, but we can pray and know that the Spirit hears our prayers.
4. Yes, I am weak, but the Spirit of Jesus is strong within me.

Romans 8:26–27 (CSB)

²⁶ In the same way the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us^c with inexpressible groanings.

²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

3. When I'm at my weakest, I look to His strength.

A. Let me share 3 Scriptures for you to take with you when you feel the weakest:

Psalms 28:7 (CSB)

⁷ The LORD is my strength and my shield;
my heart trusts in him, and I am helped.
Therefore my heart celebrates,
and I give thanks to him with my song.

Psalms 46:1 (CSB)

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a helper who is always found
in times of trouble.

Isaiah 41:10 (CSB)

¹⁰ Do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be afraid, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you; I will help you;

I will hold on to you with my righteous right hand.

B. My friends, when you feel like all is lost, don't give up.

1. My friends, when you feel like you have it all put together, don't let down your guard.
2. Whenever everything is stripped away, Jesus is all we really need.
3. This Christmas season, schedule time to be with the Lord.
 - a. Let the kids sleep in and take the extra time.
 - b. Instead of scrolling late at night, put on the audio Bible or a YouTube channel that reads a Scripture.
 - c. When you feel like you are at your weakest, train yourself to go to Jesus!

Time of reflection.

A. Where are you weakest right now?

1. Whatever it is, let's go to Jesus in prayer.
2. He has and supplies all of our needs.
3. He sympathizes and relates to us in our pain and brings us comfort and fullness of joy.
4. He brings hope, and joy, and peace, and it all.

B. Time of prayer and reflection.