

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THE FIGHTING ON YOUR OWN

with JT Clark

FOCUS VERSE

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

DISCUSSION

- 1. Did JT's story of searching for meaning in fulfillment in all the wrong places sound familiar to you?
 - a. What sorts of "wrong places" have you looked for that sort of fulfillment over the course of your life, and how/when did you come to the realization that you still felt empty or unfulfilled?
- 2. JT describes the two weeks between his first visit to church and his acceptance of Christ as some of the "darkest" of his life, because he was carrying the shame and guilt of his past life but hadn't yet internalized the redemption part of God's message.
 - a. Did that resonate with you at all?
 - b. Have you ever found yourself in that sort of limbo—aware enough of God's presence to be cognizant of your sin, but too guilt-ridden to feel worthy of His love and redemption?
- 3. Continuing the previous discussion, are there any parts of your past that you still haven't reconciled with, or still don't feel like you've achieved forgiveness or redemption for?
 - a. What do you think is the biggest thing standing between you and that kind of reconciliation?



4.	JT says his relationships and the encouragement he got from them were critical to his
	efforts to deal with his past.
	Do you have those linds of volationships in your life?

a. Do you have those kinds of relationships in your life?

b. If your friends and loved ones aren't currently providing that kind of encouragement, have you ever opened up to them and asked them for it?

5. Describe the thoughts that go through your head when you're presented with sin or temptation.

- a. Is it taxing for you to wrestle with those sorts of things?
- b. How does God figure into your efforts?

6. JT says "You can be lost wherever you're at"—meaning that even regular churchgoers and supposedly spiritual people can be "lost" if they're only going through the motions and following God's rules out of obligation.

- a. Did it surprise you at all to hear that?
- b. Are there any people in your life who might fit that description?
- c. Have you been one yourself?

7. Discuss JT's observation that "a lot of times we want God to bless our route, instead of following His route."

- a. Have you ever prayed for God to "bless your route" only to end up disappointed?
- b. Looking back, what other "routes" might He have been trying to steer you toward, and what are some things you might have gained from doing so?