

Gospel Lighthouse Church
6/21/26

Father's Day
"Grace for the Father's God-Given Assignment"

Text: II Corinthians 12:8-10.

Introduction: Father's Day was first celebrated in 1910 and did not receive permanent national recognition in the United States until 1972—a span of 62 years. Yet from a biblical Christian perspective, fatherhood did not await government approval; it was established and honored by God long before any human proclamation. God placed honor for fathers at the foundation of covenant life, declaring in the Fifth Commandment, "Honor thy father and thy mother" (Exodus 20:12).

From the beginning, God designed fathers to play a vital role in passing faith to the next generation through loving leadership, instruction, discipline, and spiritual nurture (Deuteronomy 6:6–7; Ephesians 6:4). While society eventually recognized the importance of fathers, God had already ordained their purpose. Today, many fathers face significant challenges in fulfilling that divine assignment. Yet God's promise remains unchanged: "My grace is sufficient for you: for My strength is made perfect in weakness" (II Corinthians 12:9).

Paul learned that God's grace was sufficient to help him fulfill his Kingdom assignment despite his struggles. Likewise, fathers can fulfill their God-given assignment by following Paul's example and depending upon God's all-sufficient grace.

1. Acknowledge the assignment is challenging—v8.

- Paul acknowledged his struggle and brought it before the Lord.
- Fathers must recognize that their responsibilities are real and often difficult.
- Admitting the challenge is not weakness—it is the first step toward receiving God's help.

2. Accept God's assistance—v9.

- God's answer to Paul was not immediate removal of the problem, but sufficient grace to endure it.
- Effective fatherhood is not built on self-reliance but on dependence upon God.
- His grace provides the strength needed for every responsibility.

3. Advance because of God's strength in challenges—v10.

- Paul moved from resisting his difficulty to embracing God's purpose in it.
- Fathers must learn to see challenges as opportunities for God's strength to be displayed.
- When we depend on Him, our weaknesses become avenues for His power.

Conclusion: To fulfill the divine assignment of fatherhood, follow Paul's pattern. When fathers rely on God's sufficient grace, they can faithfully fulfill their God-given assignment and leave a lasting legacy for future generations.

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