



**Enough** is our Concordia University Texas theme for the 2023-2024 academic year.

- Do I have enough gas to get me back to campus?
- Am I prepared enough for my first quiz?
- Will I have enough money to pay my tuition bill?
- How much is enough time to talk to Mom and Dad so they are happy?

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We also use the word “enough” in our daily thoughts. I’ve had enough of this. Enough is enough! Enough said. At a deep internal level, we might be asking, as we explore the world around us and our place in it this semester: “Am I good enough? Am I accepted by God and others?”

We have questions, God has answers. Our theme verse this year has plopped us into a second letter the Apostle Paul sent to a small church in Corinth, Greece, 2 Corinthians 12:9.



## READ

*2 Corinthians 12:7-10 and answer these questions:*

- 1.** This thorny illness or pain was hard on Paul’s mental health, pleading to God that it would be removed. What have you been wishing or praying would change in your life?
- 2.** How does the perspective of your week or semester ahead change knowing that God’s grace is sufficient for you in all circumstances?
- 3.** What does “my (God’s) power is made perfect in weakness,” mean for your life?



God’s Word is expressing that human weakness provides the ideal opportunity for the display of God’s divine power. Jesus answers this way, “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness” (NLT - New Living Translation).

Our contentment begins with hearing these words spoken from Jesus to us and for our lives ahead. Good news, His grace is sufficient and adequate for our journey ahead. We try to put so many things in the place of God’s goodness and grace, which leaves us empty every time, running on fumes. God has created you unique and special. You have been accepted into God’s family despite our sinful habits, hurts, and hangups. Wow, Jesus’ death and resurrection fulfills the need we have for rescue from our sins and death. When we truly believe that God is enough, the way we see our weaknesses can shift. Paul goes on in the passage, “Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.”

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. <sup>8</sup> Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

- 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

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God accepts you into His family, makes you right with Him, and He is making you more into His perfect image even in your weaknesses. Christ’s power rests with each of us today right where you are, in whatever you are dealing with, and by grace through faith, He will see you through it. God has placed you here, and that is enough.

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### PRAYER:

*Lord, help us this semester in moments of weakness and struggle to know that your grace is more than enough for us. Thank you for placing me at Concordia, and that is enough for me. In Jesus name, by the power of the Holy Spirit, **Amen.***

