

08-31-2025

Dustin Tavella: Guest Speaker
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We want to prove to ourselves, or to the world, that we can do it.

2 Corinthians 12:1-5 (NIV): I must go on boasting. Although there is nothing to be gained, I will go on to visions and revelations from the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows. And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows—was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell. I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses.

2 Corinthians 12:6-7 (NIV): Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say, or because of these surpassingly great revelations...

Paul knows who HE is. And he knows who GOD is. And he is smart enough to know the difference between the two.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 (NIV): ...Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. 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. 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.

Hope is most potent when it shouldn't exist.

When you show the world what can be accomplished in the midst of your brokenness, you show the world Jesus!