Strength in Weakness

2 Corinthians 12

Main idea: To encourage believers to rely on God's strength in times of weakness

Topic: Strength

Scripture Passages:

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2. Psalm 18:32 - "It is God who arms me with strength and keeps my way secure."

3. Ephesians 6:10 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power."

Language Suggestions:

1. In 2 Corinthians 12:9, the word "grace" (charis) can be emphasized to highlight the divine strength that God provides.

2. The word "weakness" (astheneia) in 2 Corinthians 12:9 can be explored further to show how God's strength is made perfect in our weaknesses.

Additional Scripture Verses:

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all this through him who gives me strength." This verse reinforces the idea that our strength comes from God.

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." This verse emphasizes that God is our ultimate source of strength and support.

Application of Words:

The word "strength" (dunamis) used in Ephesians 6:10 is also found in Acts 1:8, where it refers to the power of the Holy Spirit. This connection can be used to emphasize the role of the Holy Spirit in empowering believers.

Suggestions for Reinforcement:

1. Provide examples from biblical characters who demonstrated strength in their faith, such as David facing Goliath or Daniel in the lion's den.
2. Explore practical ways for listeners to cultivate and strengthen their faith, such as through prayer, studying the Word, and relying on the support of fellow believers.
3. Share stories or testimonies of individuals who have experienced God's strength in their lives, highlighting how it transformed their circumstances.

Remember to weave these additional ideas and passages into your existing sermon structure to reinforce the theme of strength and provide a well-rounded message.