

II. How - A Christian Paradox: I'm stuck and yet **NOT STUCK**.

When I'm stuck I'm in the perfect place to recognize 2 freeing truths:

Truth #1: Jesus' grace is **SUFFICIENT** for me.

"My grace is sufficient for you..." 2 Corinthians 12:9a ESV

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 12:38-39 NIV

Truth #2: Jesus' **POWER** is made perfect in my **WEAKNESS**.

"... for my power is made perfect in weakness... so that the power of Christ may rest upon me." 2 Cor. 12:9b,d ESV

ἐπισκηνώω **episkēnōō** – **to tent upon, to dwell, to reside upon, to abide.**

(For further study - consider John 1:14. Do you see a connection?)

III. What do I "do" when I'm really stuck?

1. At first I **PRAY REPEATEDLY**.

"Three times..." 2 Corinthians 12:8 ESV

2. There comes a point when I **STOP PRAYING**.

"... I pleaded..." 2 Corinthians 12:8 ESV

3. I begin to **BOAST** of my stuck position.

"Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses." 2 Corinthians 12:9c ESV

4. I **CHANGE MY FOCUS** from stuck to Christ.

"I quit focusing on the handicap and began appreciating the gift. It was a case of Christ's strength moving in on my weakness. Now I take limitations in stride, and with good cheer, these limitation that cut me down to size - abuse, accidents, opposition, bad breaks, I just let Christ take over! And so the weaker I get, the stronger I become." 2 Corinthians 12:9b-10 MSG

January 30, 2011

Welcome to



a community loving God and loving people.

We're So Glad You're Here!

We plan to celebrate Christ's love for seventy-five minutes tonight and we hope you'll sing, pray, laugh and learn along with us. Are you worried about the rules - when to stand, when to sit, what to say? Don't be! We've worked hard to make our time together just like family. So sit back, relax, and enjoy the service. You're definitely among friends here at Church Requel.

Tonight: Really Stuck

This evening we wrap up our 3-part Stuck series by talking about what happens when we are really stuck. Stuck is a reality in our Christian lives. We may be stuck on the outside, but we don't have to be stuck on the inside. Join Pastor Mark tonight as we talk about the why, the how and the what we do when we find ourselves really and truly stuck.

Communion Tonight

Tonight we will celebrate communion together. We invite you to participate if you are a Christ-follower. You do not need to be a member of our church.

Info Card

Would you do us the favor of filling out the green Info Card from top to bottom? We promise that no one will show up at your door! We'll use the info to keep you posted on what's happening at Church Requel. Also you can write a message to Pastor Mark on the back of the Info Card. He reads them faithfully each and every week! Drop off your Info Card in one of the offering baskets on the communion table. Thanks!

White Donation Envelope

We appreciate your worship by the giving of your tithes and offerings to support the ministry of Church Requel. Use the white envelope in your program and drop it in one of the offering baskets on your way out.

Prayer Requests and Praises

Do you have something you'd like us to pray about? After our communion time, we'd be happy to pray for your need. Fill out the peach prayer request card and drop it on the communion table. After our communion service, Mark Shaw will lead our prayer time.

Visit our website: www.ChurchRequel.org

Church Requel Folks Loving & Serving

Our mission is to be a community loving God and loving people. I love that many CRers are using their own creativity & talents to demonstrate Christ's love.

Several weeks ago I received a note from Trish Trubachik, who wanted the contact information for Salvation Army. Last year we helped serving meals. Trish tells me that she would like to get this going again. She's not waiting for "someone in leadership" to organize it. She's taking the initiative!

This past week I received an email from Jean McKinney, who is using her writing talents to send Valentine's Day cards to Hospice patients. What a great idea... and one that comes from her own past painful experience with her own mom and dad. Jean is demonstrating Christ's love in a unique way.

One of our newest attendees are also using her unique talents and gifts. Tara Gates told me that she loves drama and would love to use her abilities in a church service. So next week, Tara is joining Jessica Pierce in a special Super Bowl skit that is sure to help us look at worship with new eyes.

Trish, Jean, Tara and Jessica are discovering how to love and serve others. What about you? You don't have to wait to be asked! Love, Pastor Mark



Write a Valentine to Hospice

Want to make this Valentine's Day super special for you and someone else? Join with Jean McKinney to send a Valentine's Day card to one of 80 different hospice patients and caregivers. Construct a unique card, insert a meaningful Bible verse, and add a message of your prayer and warm thoughts. Jean writes, "I can tell you by personal experience that a simple little card many times made my mom or my dad's day."

Songs From Tonight

These are the songs we sang tonight in case you want to keep singing this week:

"Today is the Day"- Lincoln Brewster

"Draw Me Close" by Kutless

"Empty Me" by Jeremy Camp

"Surrender" by Lincoln Brewster

Super Bowl PreGame - 4 to 5

Super Bowl Sunday is coming up next week. Rather than fight against this cultural event, let's use it to our advantage. We'll start the service at 4PM (not 6!) We will have a special skit, videos and message. When you are invited to a Super Bowl party, invite your friends and relatives to the Pre-Game Service at Church Requel. Tell them we'll have church from 4 to 5 for Super Bowl 45!

Valentines Day Potluck Feb. 13

Plan on a great potluck meal in just two weeks! If you're single, bring one dish. If you're a family, bring a main dish and a side dish. Special Valentine desserts are being provided, so bring main dishes, vegetable dishes or salads. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy good food and great fellowship!

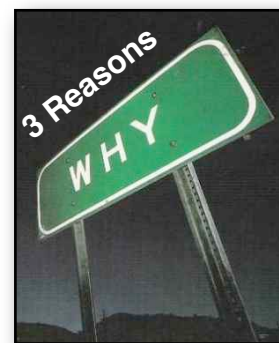


I. Stuck is an integral part of the **CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE**.
"... a thorn was given me in the flesh, ..." 2 Corinthians 12:7b ESV

Jesus told his disciples that he himself must "suffer many things."
Matthew 16:21, Mark 8:31, Mark 9:12, Luke 9:22, Luke 17:25

Paul: "We also have joy with our troubles, because we know that these troubles produce patience." Romans 5:3 NCV

Peter: "If you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name." 1 Peter 4:16 NIV



Reason #1: To counteract **ARROGANCE**.
2X - "to keep me from becoming conceited."
2 Corinthians 12:7 ESV

GNT: "to keep me from being *puffed up with pride*."
NET: "so I would not become *arrogant*."
HCSB: "so I would not *exalt myself*."
MSG: "so I wouldn't *get a big head*."

(For further study - only other place in Bible:
2 Thessalonians 2:4)

Reason #2: As part of a **SPIRITUAL ATTACK**.
"... a messenger of Satan to harass me, ..." 2 Corinthians 12:7c ESV

κολαφίζω **kolaphízō** – **to strike with closed fist; to buffet; continuous**

"Satan left God and struck Job with terrible sores." Job 2:7 MSG

Reason #3: To redirect **MY DEPENDENCE UPON CHRIST**.
"Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me."
2 Corinthians 12:8 NIV