

## God's Power

My friend Chris has been a great example of spiritual courage to me. He has suffered from epileptic seizures for much of his life. I take my ability to drive to work every day for granted and even complain about the long commute but Chris can't drive because of his potential for seizures.

A few years ago Chris underwent brain surgery for the removal of a growth that the doctors had identified might be the cause of his seizure problems. We all prayed that God would guide the surgeon's hands as he sought to bring Chris freedom from this awful affliction. Following the surgery Chris experienced no more seizures. All of his Christian friends were rejoicing in what God had done. Chris was very excited that he might not have to take all the anti-seizure medications or have so many limits on life.

In the midst of all the rejoicing, the seizures returned. Soon it was unclear if the surgery had netted any improvement at all. If there was ever a time that it would be easy to become bitter, curse God and lose hope it would be now, but Chris didn't do that. He was disappointed but he just wanted to understand what God was teaching him through this experience. Truly God's power and strength was made evident through Chris to all who know him. Recently Chris has gone back to school and is well on his way to completing a course of study that will lead to a career in counseling.

2 Cor. 12:8-10 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.

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