

St. Timothy Centering Prayer 7.5.15 Time After Pentecost-Strength thru Suffering

“The Holy Spirit preaches here, and one word of the Spirit’s sermon is far better than a thousand of our prayers.”

- **Gathering Bell** signals our intention to Silence & Stillness as we rest in God’s presence.
- **Call to Prayer: Father God, give us the courage you gave to the apostles to stand firm in our belief in you, and to be witnesses to your love and faithfulness no matter what our circumstances in this life. AMEN**
- **Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12: 7-10** A thorn in the flesh was given me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing, I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Timothy 1:6-8 I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God.

2 Corinthians 4:8-12 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus’ sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life is in you.

- **Silence and Stillness**

- **Reflections:**

Augustine: God had one son on earth without sin, but not one without suffering.

Teresa of Avila: Out of suffering comes the serious mind; out of salvation, the grateful heart; out of endurance, fortitude; out of deliverance faith. Patient endurance attends to all things.

- **Sending Prayer:** **Colossians 1:11:** May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy. AMEN GO IN PEACE