



FELLOWSHIP OF  
**CHRISTIAN ATHLETES**  
**BASEBALL**

## Weakness into Strength

*“The Word became flesh and took up residence among us.” (John 1:14)*

Paul David Tripp in his book of daily devotions, entitled, *New Morning Mercies*, writes; “God’s grace will expose what you want to hide, not to shame you, but to forgive and deliver you.”

Isn’t it interesting that no matter what sin we try to cover up, due to the fear of shame and what others might think, in the end it comes out? Come to think of it, baseball is a lot like that too. In fact, there is an expression in baseball that if you are weak in the field, the ball will find you.

In order to become the best ballplayer we can and perform with excellence, it is important to recognize our weaknesses and work to improve upon them. If we have difficulty fielding groundballs on our backhand-side, we need to work on that skill until we can perform it with excellence. If we have a weak throwing arm, we need to participate and actively focus on a long-toss program. This is true with every skill in our baseball repertoire.

It is important for all ballplayers to understand that all development (skill and mental) is a process. Technical skills (like hitting) and mental skills (like confidence) require attention and time to develop. Accordingly, players need to be patient throughout the process. Preparation, practice, and a strong mental game are the best ways to increase development. The more you practice and prepare the more confident you become. If you have a tough game, find something to build upon for the next game. Remember confidence and skill is built over time. Learn from adversity.

It is the same with our development and journey with Christ. In order to mature in our faith, we must allow his grace to shine a light on what it is we need to change. If we fail to allow the light to expose our weakness, we cannot start the process of transformation that Jesus began for us on the cross. It is only through this transformation that we can be truly forgiven and delivered into the complete person God has created. Furthermore, it is only then that we can fully recognize the plan He has prepared for us.

Let’s not be afraid to expose our weakness and work on change. Instead let’s choose to become what God has created us to be both on and off the field; and live a life of excellence.

**Challenge:** Allow your weakness to be exposed. Keep your eyes on Jesus, the light of grace that has come into the World to expose darkness. Pursue with laser-like focus His grace and promise for you, “plans for your welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”

**Reading This Week:** John 1:1-18, Jeramiah 29:11, Colossians 3:23.

**Prayer:** Thank you God for Jesus and your saving grace. Give me the courage and boldness to allow your grace to shine a light on my sin and those areas in my life that I need to change. Thank you for your creation and give me the passion and focus to live out the life you have planned for me. Amen.

-- Todd Burger – Director, NOVA/DC FCA Baseball