

**"I'm Possible"**  
**A Message by Jeremy Cowart**

**Philippians 4:13**  
**(June 3-9, 2018)**

This week's message, *I'm Possible*, is brought to us by Jeremy Cowart, an artist, photographer, humanitarian and speaker. Jeremy founded a global photography movement called Help-Portrait™, which invites photographers to donate beautiful portraits of people who may be experiencing adversity. The portraits provide the subjects with a sense of their self-worth and strength, despite their adversity, and become a source of encouragement. Jeremy also founded The Purpose Hotel™, which is a "crowd funded" hotel chain in the process of development that "aims to fight against injustices of war, hunger, poverty, global warming, racial tension, unclean water, addictions and natural disasters. Every aspect of the global chain will directly contribute to those in need through strategic sourcing and procurement." (<https://www.jeremycowart.com>) The theme and cost of rooms in each hotel will be used to sponsor children in need.

You can discover more about Jeremy's ministries, and listen to his entire message *I'm Possible*, on his web site at <https://www.jeremycowart.com/im-possible>. If you were not present to hear Jeremy's message at StoneBridge, or if you want to learn more about using your talents and successes for a greater purpose, we encourage you to view Jeremy's website and watch his message before completing this lesson.

**Answer and discuss the following question with your group.**

1. Have you ever faced a challenge you thought was impossible to deal with or had a goal you thought was impossible to achieve, but received valuable encouragement from a friend, family member or someone else? Did the encouragement help you realize that what you thought was impossible was really possible?

**Read Philippians 4:13 and answer/discuss the following questions.**

2. During the time the apostle Paul wrote his letter to the church in Philippi, he was in prison for preaching the gospel. What do you think motivated Paul to write a letter encouraging others, and specifically to write verse 4:13, instead of succumbing to his circumstances? Explain how Paul's response to his challenging circumstances reflects his faith in Jesus rather than a fear of failure.
3. After reading Philippians 4:13, what does the phrase "all things" mean to you? Where does our power to accomplish big things come from?
4. Based on this verse, should our successes be used for ourselves or to accomplish through Christ larger things that will last beyond ourselves? Explain.
5. Explain how fear of failure can hold us back from accomplishing great things. Can past failures actually motivate us to step out in faith, move beyond such failures and accomplish big things? Explain.

6. Among the many stories relayed by Jeremy during his message *I'm Possible* (on his web site at <https://www.jeremycowart.com/im-possible>) are two stories briefly summarized below. Explain how each account reflects Paul's teaching in Philippians 4:13.

- After a devastating earthquake struck Haiti, Jeremy provided Haitians with a forum, through his photography, to communicate a message to the world. A Haitian couple were getting married, even while aftershocks were hitting Haiti. They displayed a sign on a paper plate that read: "Love conquers all."
- Jeremy visited Rwanda after a period of horrific violence. He located a man whose brother was murdered and he was able to photograph him standing next to the man who committed the murder, at the place where the incident occurred. The two men locked arms with the following message written across both their arms: "Love is the weapon that kills all evil."

### Reflection and Wrap-up

7. What have you been too afraid to try? How can you turn "Impossible" into "I'm Possible"?
8. Take a moment and examine the struggles you have endured and the successes you have experienced. How can you use these struggles and successes to communicate the message of Philippians 4:13 to others?
9. Do the events of your life communicate the important message of Philippians 4:13 that your children, family members and others close to you can learn from and carry on? What must you change to make your legacy last beyond you?

### Pray Together as a Group

### Additional Study

If you have time during your Small Group or you want to study more about how God can use you, read and consider the following passages:

- Matthew 19:26
- Jeremiah 29:11
- 2 Corinthians 12:9
- Ephesians 2:10
- Ephesians 3:20
- Proverbs 3:5-6