



Every Last One

2 Corinthians 11:23-26

From a Teenager's Perspective

by Greg Stier

"I have worked much harder...because my Dad is pushing me to get a scholarship, been in detention more frequently, been mocked by classmates more severely, and been exposed to death by the suicide of my peers again and again. Five times I received threats online. Three times I was pushed around by bullies, once I was sexually assaulted, three times my belief in God has been shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day totally wasted on drugs, I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from the internet, in danger from self-harm, in danger from my fellow classmates, in danger from my parent's pill supply; in danger in my room, in danger at my friend's houses, in danger at school; and in danger from false religions. I have been juggling school and sports and friends and have often gone without sleep; I have known the hunger of longing for significance and the thirst of knowing I'm fully loved and have often gone without hope; I am spiritually and emotionally cold and naked. Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all parent's expectations. Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is addicted to porn, and I do not inwardly burn?"