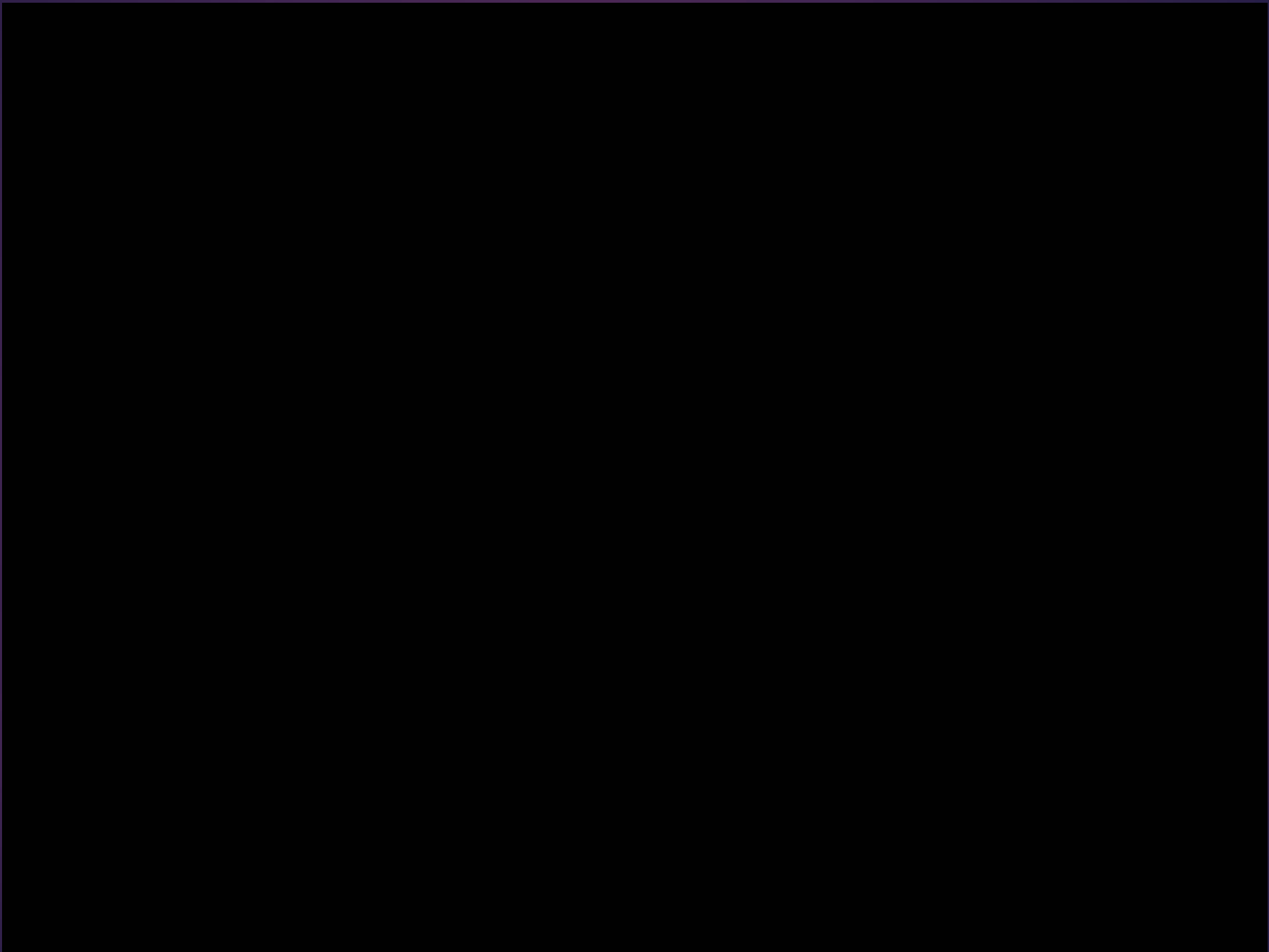


Welcome to Women's Bible Study!

MARCH 24, 2026

*“POWER IN
WEAKNESS”*



Welcome!

How to connect/Resources:



Anchored

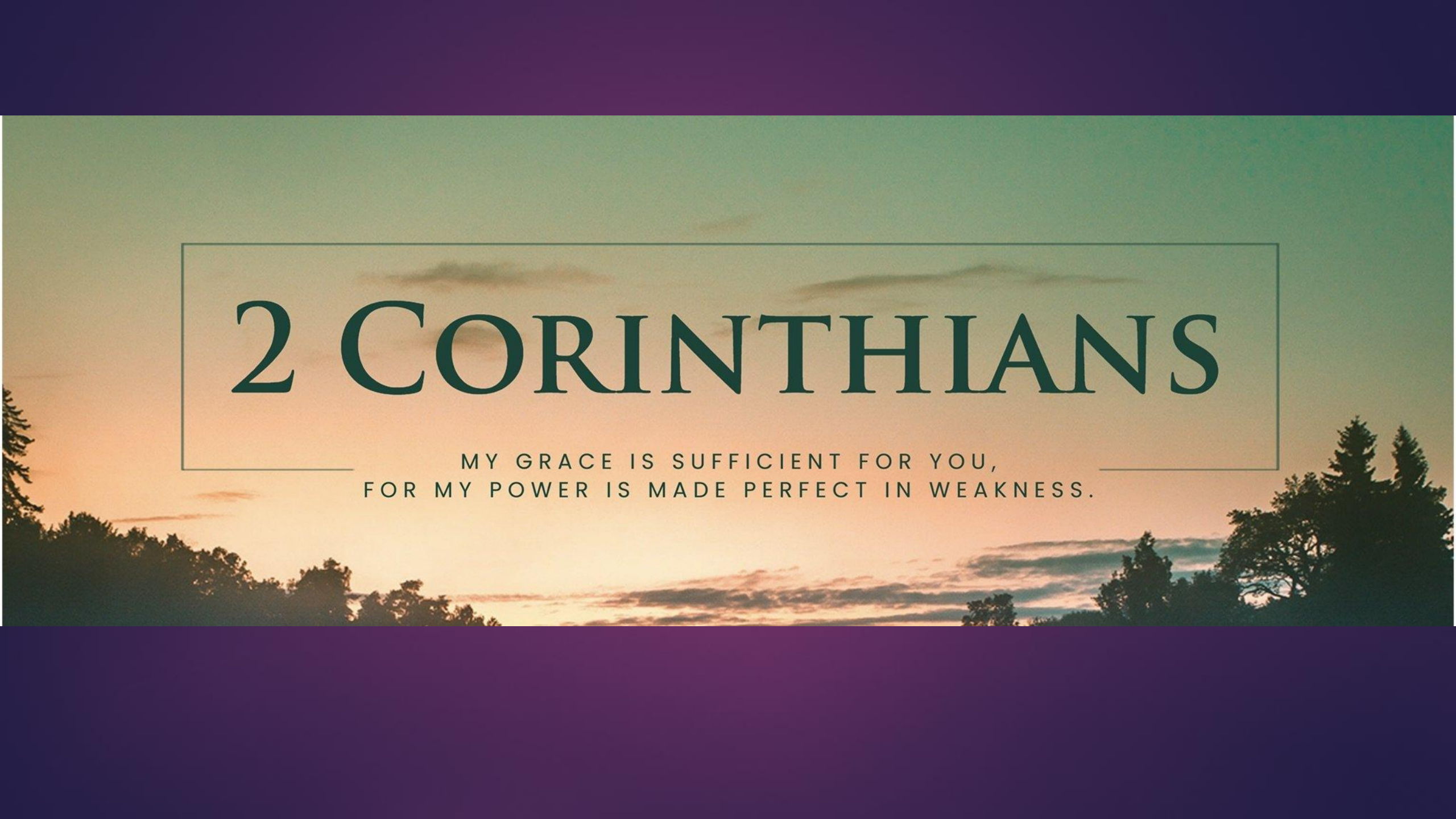
Treasuring God and His Word as our Firm Foundation and Eternal Hope

Goal: To grow in the knowledge of the Lord in order to treasure Him more fully and to reflect Him more accurately as we are conformed to His image.





**AND WE ALL, WITH
UNVEILED FACE,
BEHOLDING THE GLORY
OF THE LORD, ARE BEING
TRANSFORMED INTO THE
SAME IMAGE FROM ONE
DEGREE OF GLORY TO
ANOTHER. FOR THIS
COMES FROM THE LORD
WHO IS THE SPIRIT.
2 CORINTHIANS 3:18 ESV**



2 CORINTHIANS

MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR YOU,
FOR MY POWER IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS.

Review

Author: Paul

Purpose: After a strained relationship with them that included a letter of correction (1 Corinthians), a painful visit, and a severe letter of rebuke, they have repented so Paul is writing to help rebuilt their relationship, address some ongoing issues (Super Apostles), and tell them how to prepare for his upcoming visit.



Ongoing Issues in Corinth

- *Paul's changing travel plans*
- *The unfinished collection*
- *Ongoing immorality*
- *Paul's apostleship*
- *"Super Apostles"*
- *Preparation for his 3rd and final visit.*



Outline:

- 1. Overview and Introduction/Comfort in Affliction (1:1-11)*
- 2. Paul's personal defense-His Commendation is from God (1:12-3:18)*
- 3. Paul's defense of his ministry-Do not lose heart (4-5)*
- 4. Paul's Appeal-God's grace is not in vain (6-7)*
- 5. Call to complete the collection for the saints (8-9)*
- 6. Paul's apostolic authority over the "super apostles" (10:1-11:15)*
- 7. Boasting in weakness/His power made perfect (11:16-12:13)*
- 8. Preparation for Paul's third visit/Closing (12:14-13:14)*

Summary:

1:1-11-Introduction (Sept.)

*1:12-7:16-Paul's defense: Personal and Ministry
(Oct., Nov., Dec.)*

8-9-Giving generously (Jan.)

10:1-12:13-The rebellious minority (Feb. March)

12:14-13:10-Preparations for a third visit (April)

13:11-14-Final Greetings (April)



2 Corinthians 1:1-11:

Introduction

Blessing/Benediction

Paul's trials and afflictions

→ We are comforted in Christ in order to comfort others.



2 Corinthians 1:12-3:18

Paul's defense of his travel plans

God leads in triumphal procession in Christ

*We are the aroma of Christ-aroma of death vs.
aroma of life*

Old Covenant vs. New Covenant

→ We become what we behold.



2 Corinthians 4-5

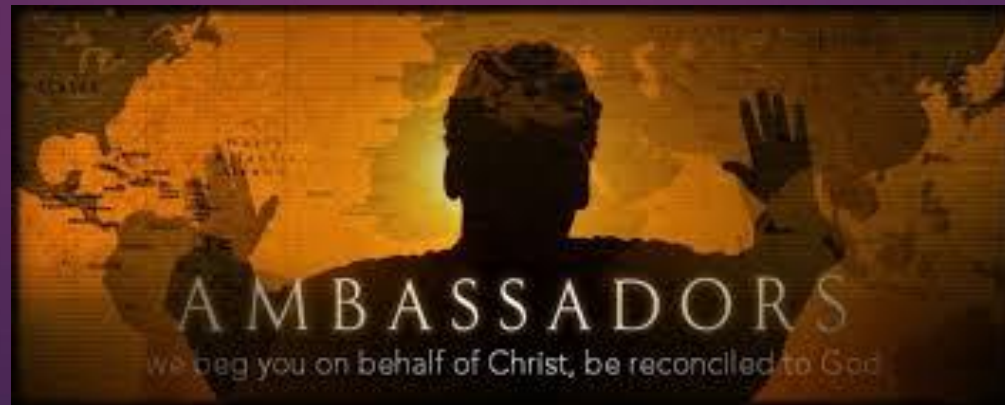
Paul defends his ministry

Treasure in jars of clay

Temporary afflictions vs eternal weight of glory

New creation/Ambassadors

→ Our frailty magnifies God's power and the glory of Christ.



2 Corinthians 6-7

*Paul's life of suffering as his commendation
Call to separate from the world/God dwells in
our midst*

Godly grief produces repentance

*→ Welcomed by God, we walk in holiness and
godly repentance in the fear of the Lord.*



Summary of 2 Corinthians 8-9

Closing Thoughts

*→ Grace begets grace:
Walking out the
gospel in the gift of
giving.*



Group Discussion

Study Guide

Teaching-2 Corinthians 10-11:15
“Wage divine warfare to guard devotion to
Christ”

I, Paul, myself entreat you, by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—I who am humble when face to face with you, but bold toward you when I am away!— 2 I beg of you that when I am present I may not have to show boldness with such confidence as I count on showing against some who suspect us of walking according to the flesh. 3 For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. 5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, 6 being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.

I, Paul, myself entreat you, by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—I who am humble when face to face with you, but bold toward you when I am away!— 2 I beg of you that when I am present I may not have to show boldness with such confidence as I count on showing against some who suspect us of walking according to the flesh. 3 For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. 5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, 6 being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.

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WARFARE

7 Look at what is before your eyes. If anyone is confident that he is Christ's, let him remind himself that just as he is Christ's, so also are we. 8 For even if I boast a little too much of our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for destroying you, I will not be ashamed. 9 I do not want to appear to be frightening you with my letters. 10 For they say, "His letters are weighty and strong, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech of no account." 11 Let such a person understand that what we say by letter when absent, we do when present.



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12 Not that we dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who are commending themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another and compare themselves with one another, they are without understanding.

13 But we will not boast beyond limits, but will boast only with regard to the area of influence God assigned to us, to reach even to you. 14 For we are not overextending ourselves, as though we did not reach you. For we were the first to come all the way to you with the gospel of Christ.

Boast

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15 We do not boast beyond limit in the labors of others. But our hope is that as your faith increases, our area of influence among you may be greatly enlarged, 16 so that we may preach the gospel in lands beyond you, without boasting of work already done in another's area of influence. 17 "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." 18 For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.



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11 I wish you would bear with me in a little foolishness. Do bear with me! 2 For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. 3 But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ. 4 For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.

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5 Indeed, I consider that I am not in the least inferior to these super-apostles. 6 Even if I am unskilled in speaking, I am not so in knowledge; indeed, in every way we have made this plain to you in all things.

7 Or did I commit a sin in humbling myself so that you might be exalted, because I preached God's gospel to you free of charge? 8 I robbed other churches by accepting support from them in order to serve you. 9 And when I was with you and was in need, I did not burden anyone, for the brothers who came from Macedonia supplied my need. So I refrained and will refrain from burdening you in any way. 10 As the truth of Christ is in me, this boasting of mine will not be silenced in the regions of Achaia. 11 And why? Because I do not love you? God knows I do!

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12 And what I am doing I will continue to do, in order to undermine the claim of those who would like to claim that in their boasted mission they work on the same terms as we do. 13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. 15 So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.



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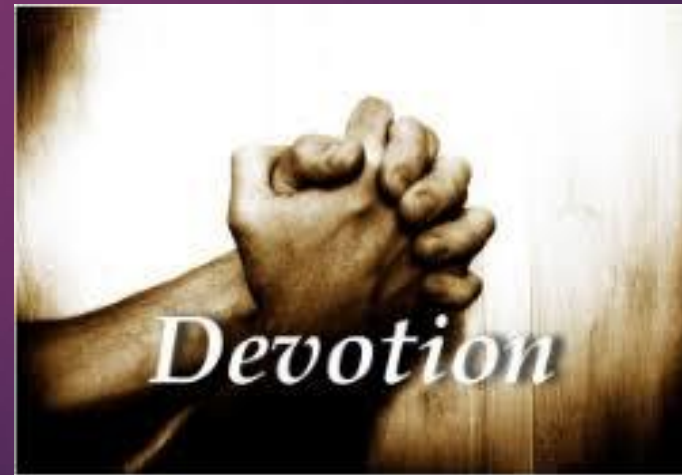
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Summary of 2 Corinthians 10-11:15

2 Corinthians 10-11:15

→ Waging divine warfare to guard our devotion to Christ



BREAK



Teaching-2 Corinthians 11:16-12:13
*“Boasting in Weakness and the Sufficiency of
God’s Grace*

16 I repeat, let no one think me foolish. But even if you do, accept me as a fool, so that I too may boast a little. 17 What I am saying with this boastful confidence, I say not as the Lord would but as a fool. 18 Since many boast according to the flesh, I too will boast. 19 For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! 20 For you bear it if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you, or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face. 21 To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that!

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But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. 22 Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I. 23 Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman

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offspring

Israelite

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offspring

Israelite

servant

*with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with
countless beatings, and often near death. 24 Five times I
received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one.
25 Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned.
Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was
adrift at sea; 26 on frequent journeys, in danger from
rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people,
danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the
wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; 27 in
toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in
hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and
exposure.*

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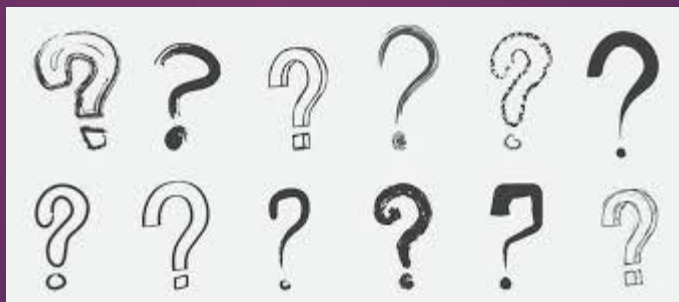


28 And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

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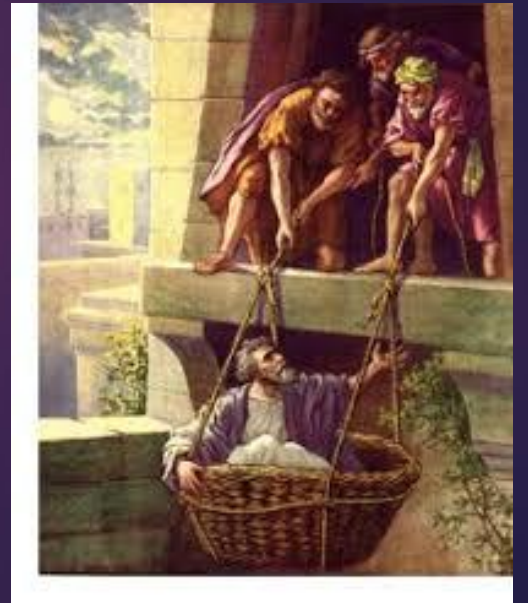


30 *If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.* 31 *The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying.* 32 *At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me,* 33 *but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.*

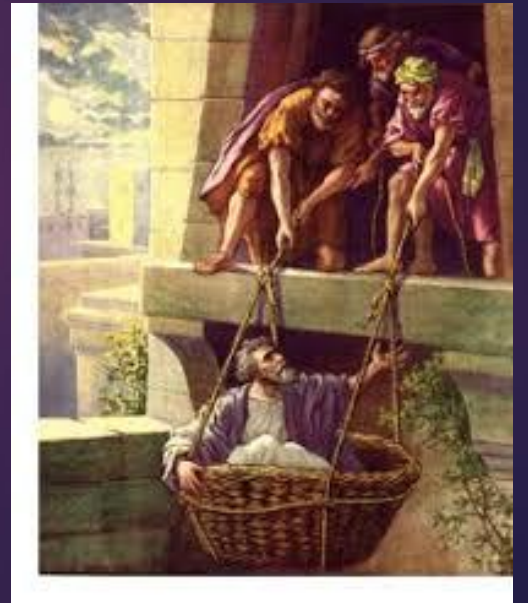
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The word "Weakness" is written in a black, cursive script. The letters are connected, and there are several small, dark dots scattered around the word, particularly concentrated around the 'e' and 's'.

30 *If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. 31 The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. 32 At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, 33 but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.*



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12 I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. 2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. 3 And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— 4 and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. 5 On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses— 6 though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me.

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7 So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. 8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. 9 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 of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

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Grace

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Grace

11 I have been a fool! You forced me to it, for I ought to have been commended by you. For I was not at all inferior to these super-apostles, even though I am nothing. 12 The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works. 13 For in what were you less favored than the rest of the churches, except that I myself did not burden you? Forgive me this wrong!

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Commendation

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Commendation

Summary of 2 Corinthians 11:16-12:13

2 Corinthians 11:16-12:13

*→ Boasting in
Weakness and the
Sufficiency of God's
Grace*

WEAKNESS



Application:

- 1. We need to wage warfare according to God's divine power, taking every thought captive to Christ.*
- 2. We ought to consider the things that make us weary, broken, and weak as that which magnify the gospel and God's work in our lives.*
- 3. Weakness highlights God's power in our lives as we daily depend on His grace.*

Discussion/Sharing Time

1. *What are ways that you can be led astray from a pure devotion to Christ?*
2. *How can you wage warfare in your mind, taking every thought captive? What does that look like?*
3. *Where are you weary or weak in the ministry God has called you to and how does 2 Corinthians encourage you in your weakness?*
4. *What have you prayed for God to remove from you and how might God use that weakness to magnify His power in your life?*

JESUS STRONG AND KIND

CITYALIGHT

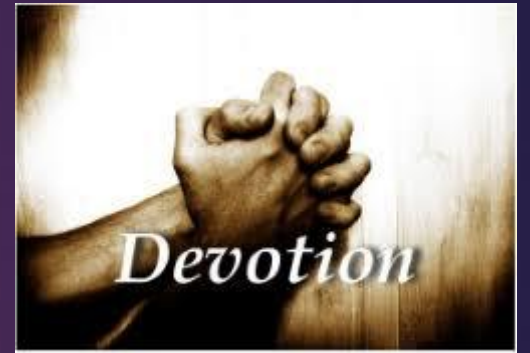
Closing Thoughts

Closing Thoughts

→ *Waging divine warfare to guard our devotion to Christ, we boast in our weakness because it magnifies God's power and the sufficiency of God's grace.*



WEAKNESS



Homework:

- *Join Discord!*
- *Read 2 Corinthians 12:14-13:14 and work on the study guide. (To be sent soon) Finish 2 Corinthians 10-11:15 and 11:16-12:13 study guides*
- *Next Study: Tuesday, April 28*

