

Mar 6, 9 2025 2 Corinthians 10

Connect (10-15 mins)

1. With Daylight Savings coming up (Sun 3/9) what are some things you are looking forward to with having more sunlight at the end of your day? How does this change your daily rhythms or activities?

Grow (10-15 mins)

2. In what ways did you grow in biblical generosity last week? What steps did you take to apply the message from 2 Corinthians 8-9 or practice one of the 6 principles of generosity?

Share (45-60 mins)

- 3. Read 2 Corinthians 10:1-18. Have someone recap the sermon in 1-2 minutes. What was most meaningful or significant from last week's sermon?
- 4. The battle of the flesh is a battle of the mind. Reflect on the things you take in daily (music, podcasts, social media, tv and news outlets). Share with your group the things that most consume your thought life and perspective these days. What are some ways you can grow in depending on God's word for perspective and comfort as opposed to other influences?
- 5. Looking at 2 Corinthians 10:5, what does it mean to take "every thought captive to the obedience of Christ"? Can you share an example of ways you have surrendered thoughts or lies to the Lord and what that process was like for you?
- 6. What are some ways false teachers, both in Paul's day and in our culture today, establish their credibility? How does that differ from the way 2 Corinthians describes a faithful teacher of gospel? (See 2 Corinthians 10:7-12, 2 Timothy 4:1-5)
- 7. The sermon mentioned 3 ancient enemies to the Christian life contrasted with 3 weapons of warfare we can engage with. Have someone reacap the 3 enemies (world, flesh, and devil) and the 3 weapons of warfare (God's word, God's Spirit, God's people) we have in the battle of the Christian life. Which of the enemies do you most wrestle with and in what ways? Which of the 3 weapons would you like to grow in as you stand firm in your faith?

Practice: Embracing the Gospel Overtime(15-30 mins)

We talk about what it means to battle the flesh and often look at our behavior, but how have you considered the battle of the flesh as a battle of your mind? We've got to go to war with our thoughts and false teaching. We are all being formed by something, what are we being formed by? We are to wage war with what's leading us away from the gospel, which may be what you're letting in as well as what you are saying to yourself.

Let's wage war! Go to battle to protect what you take in and what you think. God cares about your *heart* and your *mind*. Read Romans 12:1-2 and Philippians 4:8.



With the remaining group time, grab a blank piece of paper. Draw a line down the middle. On the left side, write out thoughts, doubts, lies, etc. that often come to mind. On the right side of those lies, thoughts, etc. write out a Scripture that is true. Contrast the lies with the truth. This is a practice to recognize lies that dismantle and distort God's word and replace with what is true from Scripture. If you need more time to reflect, consider 5 minutes a day with this practice over the next week. Begin to recognize what you are letting in and dwelling on, followed by renewing your mind and preaching the gospel to yourself (and your thoughts) daily.

For more on what it means to preach the gospel to yourself, watch this video here: <u>Desiring God: Preach the Gospel to Yourself</u>