

Mar 20, 23 2025 2 Corinthians 12

Connect (10-15 mins)

1. Share any updates from last week's prayer requests or celebrations. In what ways did you experience the goodness of God last week?

Grow (10-15 mins)

2. How was your time in God's word last week? What from Scripture encouraged you or ministered to you and in what ways?

Share (45-60 mins)

- 3. Read 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. Have someone recap the sermon in 1-2 minutes. What was most meaningful or significant from last week's sermon?
- 4. Summarize the way the apostle Paul explains the "visions and revelations" of the Lord. How does his posture of humility in this experience surprise you? In what ways does this help you grow in discernment toward false teachers or people who claim to share a similar experience?
- 5. This passage may bring about the question, "If God is good, then why do bad things happen?" or "Why does a good God allow bad things to happen?". In what ways have you wrestled with this question? What is a biblical response to a question like this? *If you're not sure, see this resource on a Theology of Suffering.
- 6. Read Romans 8:28. The sermon mentioned, "While God does work all things for good, not all things are good." What is something that you are currently going through that doesn't feel good but is producing dependance on God and hope that He will use it for your good and His glory?

Practice: Experience Ongoing Freedom (15-30 mins)

"But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:9)

Much of our Christian life is learning how to have enduring faith by praying through our sin and suffering. What weakness are you currently experiencing? Whether that be similar to Paul's (a physical ailment or circumstance that you've asked in prayer to be removed and it hasn't), or a weakness of the flesh (which we all experience). Take some time to write down the areas of weakness that you are currently experiencing.

As a group, take time to pray through weaknesses together.

- 1. Confess your weakness (sin and/or suffering)
- 2. Embrace God's gift of grace to sustain you, pray for ways you can walk in grace around this area.
- 3. Ask for His power to endure faithfully. The same spirit that raised Christ from the dead can empower you to endure weakness! (Romans 8:11)