

Fortifying Our Faith

**The Holy Spirit Gives Us The Strength
That Fortifies Our Faith**

2 Corinthians 4:7-10

Treasures In Jars Of Clay

2 Corinthians 4:7-10 *We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves. We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed. Through suffering, our bodies continue to share in the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be seen in our bodies.*

We Are Jars Of Clay

The Treasure is IN the Jars of Clay: *The Holy Spirit, God's grace, abundant life, eternal life, light and love of God.*

What is so special about the Jars of Clay? *Nothing*

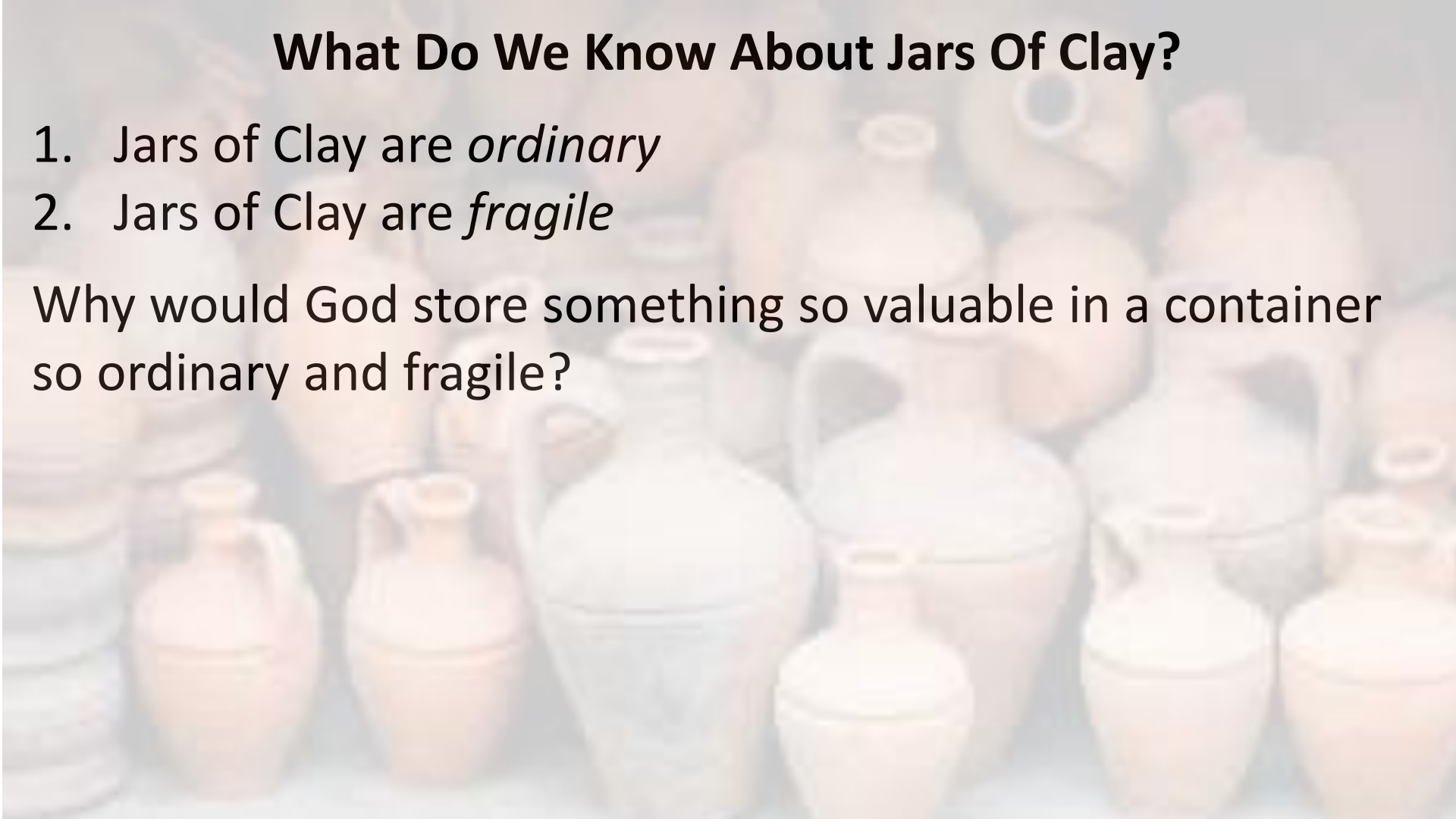
The Jars of Clay are: *us...humans!*

No matter what our circumstances in this life we are to focus on God's grace and eternal values!

What Do We Know About Jars Of Clay?

1. Jars of Clay are *ordinary*
2. Jars of Clay are *fragile*

Why would God store something so valuable in a container so ordinary and fragile?



The Harder Life Is The More Brilliant The Treasure

1. We're hard-pressed on every side, *but not crushed*
2. We're perplexed, *but not in despair*
3. We're persecuted, *but not abandoned*
4. We're struck down, *but not destroyed*

But By The Power of God We Have NOT Given Up!

Jars Of Clay Were Meant To Be Used Not Admired

The choice is ours, when we have challenging circumstances we need to resource the Power of God. **Therefore we are not crushed, abandoned, in despair, or destroyed.** What the world sees is that we have something special inside us—the life and light of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. **No matter what our circumstances in this life we are to focus on God's grace and eternal values!**