

II CORINTHIANS



JULY 13, 2025

READ

Read 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 and consider what lessons the Holy Spirit intends us to learn.

EXAMINE

- Given the context of chapters 10-11, why does Paul bring up visions and revelations at the start of chapter 12?
- In verses 2-4, Paul describes in the third person a heavenly experience where he was brought into the presence of God in heaven. He chooses not to boast in this experience, but rather in his weakness through a thorn in his flesh. How does Paul's stance differ from those who appealed to their own experiences to validate themselves to the Corinthians?
- Verse 7 indicates that, though it was a "messenger of Satan," the thorn was sovereignly given to Paul by God. Why would God allow this?
- How is God's power made perfect in weakness?

APPLY

- What are some of the "thorns" we experience in the Christian life?
- Name a time that God used a thorn to keep you from being conceited and help you rely on his power. How can this past experience help you in the future?
- How does this passage encourage us to trust God when he brings thorns into our lives and doesn't remove them?
- How can we praise God even in the midst of our sufferings?
- What role should community play in navigating a believer's suffering?

PRAY

- Share any thorns you experience. Pray for each other to experience the Holy Spirit's power through your weakness, strengthening you as a follower of Jesus.

NOTES

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