

Connect Group Guide: "Not What You Carry, Who You Carry | 2 Cor 4"

**Passage: 2 Cor 4:1-18**

Sermon Link: [▶ It's Not About What You Carry, It's About Who You Carry | 2 Cor 4](#)

Welcome:

(Choose a question for your group to discuss)

- Where in your house would you hide a \$1million cash?

Worship:

(You may choose to use YouTube or other mediums to facilitate your time of worship)

- [▶ FORREST FRANK - IN THE ROOM \(OFFICIAL AUDIO\)](#)

Word:

(Discuss these questions in your group, encourage everyone to take part)

Before reading the scripture:

- Why do you think God would allow imperfect humans to carry His perfect presence in our hearts?
- How should carrying God's presence impact the way we live?
- "What you carry can eventually begin to define who you are." - Do you agree?

Read: 2 Cor 4:1-18

- Why do you think we don't see more people responding to the Gospel message?
- Why do you think Satan chooses to blind people's *minds*?
- How can we approach non-believers with compassion and not frustration at their unbelief?
- Why do you think God chose imperfect vessels to carry his presence?
- "When people see the treasure we carry they should not praise the jar, but be transfixed by the light inside." Discuss...
- Verse 8-18 explains how God's presence within us sustains us, overflows within us, and gives us eternal perspective.
 - Can you name examples from your own life where the Holy Spirit has worked in these ways?
- What does it mean to carry both the death & life of Jesus in our body?
- "Our problem is not what we think of our affliction, but forgetting the weight of the eternal." Discuss...

Works:

(Take some time for personal reflecting on the following questions and then share back with the group)

- This passage does not diminish personal suffering but it provides us with an eternal perspective.
 - How can you begin to live your life with an eternal perspective?
- How is God calling you to shine his perfect light through your imperfect jar of clay this week?

Closing:

(Remember to ask for prayer requests.)

Use times where you rely too much on your own strength as a signal to pray that God may renew us day-by-day.

