“Dedication on Display”
2nd Corinthians 6:1-10

I. It Proceeds From Identity (1-3)

A. Resting in grace (1) - “Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain.”

B. Remembering gratitude (2) - "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”

C. Recognizing the big picture (3) - “We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry…”

II. It Requires Endurance In Adversity (4-5)

A. Paul was a proven servant of God (4a) - “…but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way…”

B. Paul was a powerful soldier of God (4b) - “…by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities…”

C. Paul was a persistent sufferer for God (5a) - “…beatings, imprisonments, riots…”

D. Paul was prepared to sacrifice for God (5b) - “…labors, sleepless nights, hunger.”

III. It Is Empowered By Spiritual Endowments (6-7)

A. Invisible, personal endowments (6) - “By purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love;”

B. Public, ministry endowments (7) - “By truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left;”
IV. It Is Proven In Challenging Relationships (8-10)

A. The price of being misunderstood (8a) - “Through honor and dishonor…”

B. The pain of being maligned (8b) - “…through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true;”

C. The paradox of being a messenger (9a) - “As unknown, and yet well known…”

D. The prospect of being a martyr (9b) - “…as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed.”

E. The privilege of being a minister (10a) - “As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich…”

F. The preciousness of being made new (10b) - “…as having nothing, yet possessing everything.”