



**Turning Point  
Bible Fellowship**

Turning People Towards Christ  
TURNINGPOINTBFC.ORG — 2 CHRONICLES 7:14

## **Speak up Please**

### **Personal or group-based guide for additional study**

#### **Opening Prayer**

Begin your group time with prayer, asking God to open hearts and minds to His Word and give courage to speak up for Him this week.

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#### **Icebreaker**

Share a time when you had to ask someone to "speak up" or "turn up the volume" because you couldn't hear them. What were you trying to hear and why was it important?

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#### **Key Scripture**

2 Corinthians 4:13 - "But having the same spirit of faith as the Psalmist who wrote, 'I believe, therefore I spoke,' we also believe, therefore we also speak."

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#### **Sermon Summary**

Paul wrote to the Corinthians while experiencing affliction from every direction—external opposition and internal fears. Yet he refused to lose heart or be silenced. He declared that despite persecution, abandonment, and threats, he would continue to speak up because of his faith in God. This message calls us to speak up about our faith, even in the midst of our own afflictions and challenges.

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## **Discussion Questions**

### **Part 1: Understanding Our Qualification**

1. Read 2 Corinthians 3:5-6. Paul says our adequacy comes from God, not ourselves. How does knowing that God has qualified you (not your education, experience, or background) change your perspective on sharing your faith?
2. What are some ways that society or even the church has made people feel unqualified to speak up about God? How can we combat those messages?
3. The sermon mentioned that God has "selected us" for service in the new covenant. What does it mean to you personally that God has chosen you to be His messenger?

### **Part 2: The Source of Our Boldness**

4. Read 2 Corinthians 3:12 and 4:13. Paul connects hope with boldness in speaking. How does your hope in Christ's resurrection fuel your courage to speak up about your faith?
5. The sermon stated: "Our hope is that however bad this is and gets, there is a better day coming." How can this hope help you speak up in difficult circumstances at work, school, or with family?
6. Share an example of when you saw someone's faith shine through their affliction. How did their "cracked vessel" reveal God's glory?

### **Part 3: Speaking Through Affliction**

7. Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-9. Paul describes being "afflicted but not crushed, perplexed but not in despair." What afflictions or challenges are currently trying to silence you?
8. The sermon used the metaphor of cracked clay jars—our brokenness allows God's light to shine through. How have you seen God use your pain or struggles to reveal His glory to others?
9. Why is it important to both live AND speak our faith? (Reference Romans 10:14-17) How are both necessary?



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### Part 4: The Power to Keep Speaking

10. Read 2 Corinthians 4:14. Paul says the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to us. How does resurrection power help us continue speaking up when we face opposition or discouragement?
11. The sermon mentioned several reasons Paul could have quit: physical persecution, abandonment by coworkers, threats on his life, false accusations. What makes you want to "sit down and be quiet" about your faith?
12. Who in your life needs to hear that they can be saved or that they can come back to God? What is preventing you from speaking up to them?

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### Key Takeaways

1. We are qualified by God, not by our credentials. Our adequacy comes from Him, making us sufficient to speak about His grace.
  2. We are selected for purpose. God has chosen us as ambassadors of the new covenant and messengers of reconciliation.
  3. We have hope that fuels boldness. Our living hope in Christ's resurrection gives us courage to speak even in affliction.
  4. Our brokenness reveals God's glory. The cracks in our earthen vessels allow God's light to shine through to others.
  5. We have resurrection power. The same power that raised Jesus enables us to keep speaking up no matter what tries to silence us.
  6. Speaking up is not optional. Faith requires both living and speaking—people need to hear the word of God to believe.
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### Practical Applications

#### This Week's Challenge: Speak Up, Please

Choose at least ONE of the following actions to take this week:

##### For Students:

- Share your faith with one classmate or friend at school
- Post an encouraging scripture or testimony on social media
- Start a prayer group or Bible study on campus

##### For Those at Work:

- Share how God has helped you through a difficult situation with a coworker
- Offer to pray for someone who shares a struggle with you
- Display your faith through both your actions and words

##### For Everyone:

- Text or call someone who needs to know they can be saved or come back to God
- Share your testimony with someone who is going through affliction
- Post one scripture or word of encouragement on social media this week
- Reach out to someone who has "quit" or walked away from faith

##### Personal Reflection:

- Journal about a time when God's grace carried you through affliction
- Identify one area where fear or past hurt has silenced you
- Write down the names of 3 people you will intentionally speak to about God's grace



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### Group Accountability:

- Share with one other group member who you plan to speak to this week
- Exchange contact information and check in with each other mid-week
- Come prepared next week to share what happened when you spoke up

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### Memory Verse

2 Corinthians 4:13 - "But having the same spirit of faith as the Psalmist who wrote, 'I believe, therefore I spoke,' we also believe, therefore we also speak."

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### Closing Reflection

The sermon ended with this powerful reminder: "Keep speaking up till He says, 'well done.' And that greater glory is yours."

**Final Question:** What would it look like for you to finish your race well, continuing to speak up until Jesus returns or calls you home?

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### Closing Prayer

Pray together as a group:

- For courage to speak up despite affliction
  - For those who have been silenced by pain, fear, or abandonment
  - For the people God has placed on your hearts to reach
  - For resurrection power to sustain you when opposition comes
  - That God's glory would shine through your brokenness
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### *Leader Notes*

- *Be sensitive to those who may have been hurt by the church or told they weren't qualified to serve*
- *Encourage quieter members to share, but don't force participation*
- *Celebrate stories of people speaking up, no matter how small*
- *Follow up during the week with group members about their commitments*
- *Consider creating a group text or chat to share encouragements and prayer requests throughout the week*

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*Remember: You are qualified, selected, enriched with hope, and empowered by resurrection power. Speak up, please!*