

### Main Idea: God's powerful gospel works in the weakness of His people.

#### Context of 2 Corinthians

- 2 previous letters: 1 Corinthians and another “severe” letter (7:8-9)
- Major disfunction in the Corinthian church and rejection of Paul's authority

#### Go confidently on mission in the power of God. (3:4-6)

- We can have confidence on mission because it is God who sends us.
- We do not need confidence in our own abilities, but in the work of God.

#### Go confidently with the powerful message of the gospel. (5:14-21)

- Jesus' work is sufficient for our salvation. (14)
- Our salvation changes our allegiance. (15)
- Our salvation changes our identity. (17)
- Our salvation changes our purpose. (20)
- **Imputation** - Jesus took our sin and gave us His righteousness. (21)

#### Give generously even in weakness. (8:1-9)

- Generous giving is a joy and a grace from God. (1-2)
- Generous giving is possible for all Christians. (2-4)
- Generous giving proclaims the gospel (9)

#### Trust God's power in times of weakness. (12:7-10)

- Our weaknesses are gifts from God to protect us from self-sufficient pride. (7)
- God's power is enough to overcome any weakness. (9)
- We can be content in any circumstance if we trust in the power of God. (10)

**Main Idea:** God's powerful gospel works in the weakness of His people.

**Intro Question:** What do you think your biggest weakness is?

### Teaching Part 1

#### Go confidently on mission in the power of God. (3:4-6)

**What are some reasons that you may fear living on mission? What are obstacles that keep you from sharing the gospel?**

- We think of all sorts of reasons not to live on mission. But if we remind ourselves that it is God who sends us and it is God who empowers us, most of those reasons no longer seem significant. We have to trust His power when we go on mission, not our own.

#### Go confidently with the powerful message of the gospel. (5:14-21)

**What does it mean that through Jesus we are made into a new creation?**

- Those who are in Christ are no longer defined by their sin or enslaved to their sin. They are a new creation made new for the glory of God. Though we still struggle with sin in this life, our life is now found in Christ and we can live lives that are directed at honoring and glorifying Him.

**What is the purpose of the Christian life?**

- We exist for the glory of God. We are called to make His name known in the world, to shine as lights in the darkness, and carry the good news to those who have not heard it. We no longer serve our own temporary pleasures, but in all things desire the pleasures of Jesus.

### Teaching Part 2

#### Give generously even in weakness. (8:1-9)

**Is generous giving a part of your life? What are some commitments you could make that would help you live generously?**

- There is a biblical pattern of giving 10% to the Lord that many people find to be a good starting point. Committing to give this amount no matter what can help you learn to give even when it is not easy. Whatever commitments you make, you should pray that the Lord would show you the way of generosity, and you should commit to give with joy and trust in the Lord's provision.

#### Trust God's power in times of weakness. (12:7-10)

**What are some weaknesses that God has put in your life to keep you humble?**

- You don't have to get too personal, but keep in mind that God is glorified in our weakness, not pride that would keep us from admitting our weaknesses.

**How do you think God could use these weaknesses to show His own power and glory?**

- God is more powerful than our weaknesses and His power is made perfect in our weakness. There is a confidence that we can have in life when we know that we are not defined by our weaknesses but by the power that God has to work through us.

**Answer to Remember:** The letters of the New Testament are God's inspired instructions to His people about the gospel, the Christian life, and the Church.

# 2 CORINTHIANS

## NT Overview

Student Handout

### Context

- 2 Previous letters: 1 Corinthians and another. \_\_\_\_\_ letter (7:8-9)
- Major disfunction in the Corinthian church and \_\_\_\_\_ of Paul's authority

**God's powerful gospel works in the \_\_\_\_\_ of His people.**

**Go confidently on \_\_\_\_\_ in the power of God. (3:4-6)**

- We can have confidence on mission because it is God who \_\_\_\_\_ us.
- We do not need confidence in our own \_\_\_\_\_ but in the work of God. cused on loving one another.

**Go confidently with the powerful \_\_\_\_\_ of the gospel.**

**(5:14-21)**

- Jesus' work is sufficient for our \_\_\_\_\_. (14)
- Our salvation changes our \_\_\_\_\_. (15)
- Our salvation changes our \_\_\_\_\_. (17)
- Our salvation changes our \_\_\_\_\_. (20)
- \_\_\_\_\_ : Jesus took our sin and gave us His righteousness. (21)

**Give \_\_\_\_\_ even in weakness. (8:1-9)**

- Generous giving is a \_\_\_\_\_ and a grace from God. (1-2)
- Generous giving is \_\_\_\_\_ for all Christians. (2-4)
- Generous giving \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel (9)

**Trust God's \_\_\_\_\_ in times of weakness. (12:7-10)**

- Our \_\_\_\_\_ are gifts from God to protect us from self-sufficient pride. (7)
- God's power is enough to \_\_\_\_\_ any weakness. (9)
- We can be \_\_\_\_\_ in any circumstance if we trust in the power of God. (10)

# 2 CORINTHIANS

## NT Overview

Teaching Resources

[Bible Project video: 2 Corinthians Overview](#)

[Capitol Hill Baptist Church Core Seminar: NT Overview](#)

[ESV Study Bible: Introduction to 2 Corinthians](#)

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