

Women of the Word

“Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” ~2 Corinthians 4:16-18

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” ~2 Corinthians 5:17

“But He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.” ~2 Corinthians 12:9

Paul went to Corinth and preached in the synagogue for about 18 months (50-51 AD). After his departure, he wrote several letters to the believers of Corinth, including this 4th letter we know as 2nd Corinthians around 56 AD, nearly a year after he wrote 1st Corinthians. He was on his 3rd missionary journey in Macedonia where he met Titus who had just come from Corinth. He was both encouraged and troubled by the news from Titus and thus he wrote an emotional letter to the people of Corinth. The main themes found in 2nd Corinthians include: the power of the gospel to transform individuals; the relationship between suffering and the power of the Holy Spirit in Paul’s own life and ministry; encouragement toward habits of holy living including repentance and giving; and warnings to truly examine one’s own faith in relation to Christ. Paul’s emotional letter expresses his sincere desire for all to come to repentance and to not “lose heart” through the ups and downs of daily living. Even though 2 Corinthians was written hundreds of years ago, Paul’s words can be an encouragement to believers today.

General Suggestions & Tips

- Schedule an appointment each day to read God’s Word.
- Begin with prayer and ask the Lord to speak to you through His Word.
- Follow the schedule and read the scripture passage listed.
- Read your Bible with a notebook and pen beside you. Make note of words, phrases, and verses that stand out as you read each day’s passage.
- Look for points of *personal application*.
 - How is God speaking to me (instruction, call to obey, warning)?
 - What does this passage teach me about God?
 - Are there specific truths God wants me to apply to my life?

Questions to ask yourself as you read the book of 2 Corinthians this month:

1. What are some biblical perspectives on suffering presented in the text?
2. How can I focus my mind on Christ in light of suffering personally or in the world around me?
3. Do I believe I am a new creation in Christ? How would I answer this question to a nonbeliever, a believer?

Reading Schedule for the Book of 2 Corinthians

- April 1 2 Corinthians 1:1-11
- April 2 2 Corinthians 1:12-22
- April 3 2 Corinthians 1:23 – 2:11
- April 4 2 Corinthians 2:12 – 3:6
- April 5 2 Corinthians 3:7-18
- April 6 2 Corinthians 4:1-6
- April 7 2 Corinthians 4:7-18
- April 8 Review 2 Corinthians, Chap. 1-2
- April 9 Review 2 Corinthians, Chap. 3-4

- April 10 2 Corinthians 5:1-10
- April 11 2 Corinthians 5:11 – 6:2
- April 12 2 Corinthians 6:3-13
- April 13 2 Corinthians 6:14 – 7:1
- April 14 2 Corinthians 7:2-16
- April 15 Review 2 Corinthians, Chap. 5-7

- April 16 2 Corinthians 8:1-15
- April 17 2 Corinthians 8:16 – 9:5
- April 18 2 Corinthians 9:6-15
- April 19 Review 2 Corinthians, Chap. 8-9

- April 20 2 Corinthians 10:1-11
- April 21 2 Corinthians 10:12-18
- April 22 2 Corinthians 11:1-15
- April 23 2 Corinthians 11:16-33
- April 24 Review 2 Corinthians, Chap. 10-11

- April 25 2 Corinthians 12:1-10
- April 26 2 Corinthians 12:11-21
- April 27 2 Corinthians 13:1-4
- April 28 2 Corinthians 13:5-10
- April 29 2 Corinthians 13:11-14
- April 30 Review 2 Corinthians, Chap. 12-13