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| ***GBC FLOCK GROUP QUESTIONS***  ***2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTERS 4:7-5:10***  ***Lesson 3 Week of April 21, 2024*** | C:\Users\Kal\Pictures\Church Logos\GBC\GBC1400x1400N.png |

1. *We begin the lesson by focusing on the Sunday message. How did God use His Word from this past Sunday to teach you, reprove you, correct you, train you in righteousness, or remind you of essential truth (****2 Timothy 3:16****)?*
2. *In* ***2 Corinthians chapter 4*** *Paul moves from the glory of the new creation (“****For God, who said, ‘Light shall shine out of darkness,’ is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ****” -****4:6****) to the humility of “****earthen vessels****” (****4:7****). Read this verse (****4:7****) and describe what point Paul is trying to emphasize by using this imagery. What is the treasure?*
3. *In the next two verses (****4:8-9****) Paul illustrates the “****surpassing greatness of the power****” (****4:7****) with four pairs of contrasts. Paul is indicating that being a believer does not shelter one from the adversities of life. Summarize Paul’s vivid description of his life, those serving with him in ministry, which is really every believer serving in ministry in* ***4:8-9*** *in your own words.*
4. *In* ***2 Corinthians 4:10-12*** *Paul uses another fourfold reference as he writes of his identification with Jesus in life and in death. Read these verses (****4:10-12****) and explain how God uses the difficulties in sharing the gospel for good in others.*
5. ***Psalm 116*** *is a very moving psalm of deliverance from imminent danger and could be entitled, “****The Response of a Man Who was Rescued by God****.” Paul apparently knew this psalm well and quoted from it in his letter (****2 Corinthians 4:13 is a quote from Psalm 116:10****). Turn to the Old Testament and take a moment to read* ***Psalm 116****. Using the context of* ***Psalm 116****, how does Paul apply this Scripture to his own life (****4:13-15****)? How does* ***Psalm 116*** *and* ***2 Corinthians 4:13-15*** *encourage you in enduring suffering in evangelism?*
6. ***2 Corinthians 4:15*** *could be Paul’s “mission” or “purpose” statement for his life. Read this verse (****4:15****) and rephrase his thought in your own words.*
7. *In* ***4:16****, Paul emphasizes another aspect of his ministry—its eternal perspective. He had written of the “****triumph****” (****2:14****) and the “****glory****” (****3:18****) of ministry. He had explained the role of the indwelling Spirit (****3:17-18****), the power from the Father (****4:1-7****), and his union with Jesus (****4:10-14****). Read* ***4:16-18*** *and write a summary, or paraphrase, of this passage.*

* *How might the point of these passages in* ***4:16-18*** *be an encouragement to the Corinthian believers? How might these verses help them to believe that Paul is a true apostle?*

1. *One author noted that “few chapter divisions are more unfortunate than this one (i.e.,* ***chapter 5****) since what follows in* ***5:1-10*** *describes and explains the thought expressed by Paul in* ***4:16-18****.” While Paul had just used the metaphor of an “****earthen vessel****” (****4:7****), he shifts his word picture to that of an “****earthly tent****” (****5:1****). Read* ***5:1-5*** *and write a single sentence (ten words or less) that expresses the truth and meaning of this great passage. What is the “****earthly tent****” that Paul is referring to? What is the “****building from God****”?*

* *Do you think the “nakedness” Paul refers to in* ***verses 3-4*** *literal or figurative? Support your answer.*

1. *In* ***1 Corinthians chapter 15*** *Paul had explained the concept of life after death, as well as the contrast between our present, natural (“****perishable****”) bodies and our future, spiritual (“****imperishable****”) bodies. In* ***2 Corinthians 5:6-10*** *Paul continues his emphasis on the eternal nature, the hope, and the confidence of ultimately being “****at home with the Lord****” (****5:8****). Read these five verses (****5:6-10****) and write a list of the different truths described by Paul. What is the judgment seat of Christ? How is that judgment seat different than the one the unbeliever will face (****Revelation 20:11-15****)?*
2. *From this section, what are the benefits for the believer of having an eternal perspective?*