

SERMON GUIDE

THROUGH THE SPIRIT'S LEADING & POWER

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

Pastor | Tim Prince

October 27, 2024

Faith Community Church I fcchudson.com

Helping people live a gospel inspired life.

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SERMON NOTES					

OUR MISSION is to make more and better disciples of Jesus Christ.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE (Year 2, Week 44)

Hebrews 12:1-2 (Repentance)

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

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The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

Scripture that stands out to you while you read

Observations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you

Application that connect the verses to your real life and relationships

Prayer that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him

Conversation Questions

Getting to Know Me: Share about a time when your body's strength quit on you during an athletic event.

Note About the Passage: Paul mentions "...a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven..." – He is almost certainly talking about himself in this passage. He's talking about a vision (or multiple visions) that he was allowed to have. The "third heaven" is simply talking about God's presence. (The "first heaven" in a Jewish cosmology is what we would call "the sky"; the second "heaven" is what we would call "space"; the third "heaven" is the place where God dwells.)

Read 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

- What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read these scriptures? Is anything jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- To keep Paul from becoming conceited, it says that God gave him "a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass" him (v.7). It isn't entirely clear what this "thorn" is.
 - What kinds of "thorns" do you think God gives to Christians to keep them humble? Have you ever experienced this? What was it like?
- 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 of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (v.9).
 - What do you think this means and why is it good news?
- A If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A Where are you experiencing weakness right now? What would it look like for you to boast in that weakness so that the power of Christ would rest on you?
 - Be as practical as you can be give an example of what this would look like in a relationship that is important to you right now.
- A This week, we begin our 21-Day Spiritual Journey at Faith Community Church. Would you share about the ways you plan to participate?
- **P** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.