

**Sermon Discussion Questions**  
**Ambassadors for Christ: Week 9**  
**2 Corinthians 12:1-10**

*Here are some questions to discuss as you think about the message from 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. Also consider 2 Corinthians 11.*

1. Read 2 Corinthians 11. What is the attack against Paul? In what specific ways does Paul not measure up to the standards of the Corinthian church? How does Paul respond? What does he “boast” about?
2. Read 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. How does Paul continue his “boast”? Why do you think he brings up his revelation of the “third heaven” and then mentions his weaknesses?
3. How would you describe Paul’s “thorn in the flesh”? Where does it come from? What is its purpose? How does Paul respond?
4. Paul’s presents a countercultural view of suffering. How does your understanding of suffering differ from Paul’s? Why do you think that is?
5. It’s natural for us to preserve and enhance our reputation—our resume. What is the gospel response to that desire and effort?
6. Why is it so hard to embrace—let alone boast about—our weaknesses? What have the challenges of 2020 revealed to you about the way you look at your own weaknesses? How would you evaluate your own response? To what extent are you “content”?
7. How have you been personally comforted, convicted, or challenged? Think about the message, your own reflections on God’s Word, the work of the Holy Spirit, other people, and your experiences. What do you need from your small group or a trusted friend to help you process how God might be working in and through you?

**Prayer**

*Father, thank you for the weaknesses you have brought into my life. Help me to see them through the lens of your love for me. Forgive me for resisting your work in my life through the hardships I have experienced. Help me to give my resume to you and find my approval in my identity as your child and find my strength in your power, not my own.*