



Where do you keep your most valued possessions? 2 Corinthians tells us that God has put his very own light inside a jar made of clay...flawed, fragile, and not much to look at. The truth is, our bodies are fragile, and someday will be overtaken by death. And yet it's in our earthly bodies that God chooses to set His treasures. Why would he choose such a place? Let's walk through this week's reading to dig deeper into this scripture.

Read: 2 Corinthians 4:6-7

What do you think is meant by "the treasure" that is inside the jar of clay?

Why do you think God would choose such a seemingly unworthy container for this treasure?

Read: 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

How are our physical bodies like the jar of clay?

How can Paul call our afflictions light, when sometimes our burdens can feel crushing? How do you wrestle with this seemingly contradictory truth?

How does keeping our eyes on what is unseen change our perspective?

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:1-5

Take a moment and think about the contrasts you see Paul making in these verses. What sticks out to you?

What do we learn about the way God has designed us? Do you feel that God is revealing anything to you personally within these verses?

How does God guarantee the promises of heaven in us right now? Does that change your perspective about the “Already/Not Yet” tension we feel between trying to live this life, and the fact that we all face death?

Live it out:

In what areas of your life, or in what struggles, do you need to set your eyes on what is unseen in order to change your perspective?

What is the Spirit encouraging you to do in the here and now that will allow God’s light to shine out of your life, as broken and cracked as it may be?

How has the gift of the Holy Spirit given you a taste of what Heaven will be like?

Prayer:

Father, thank you for choosing us, as fragile and weak as we are, to be containers of your great treasure. May your light and power shine out of us, not because of our own abilities, but because of what you are doing in us. Thank you for the Holy Spirit, which gives all believers a taste of what we will gain in full measure in the life to come with you. Amen.