



THORNS INTO GLORY

ENDURANCE

2 Corinthians 6:3 – 13 (NIV)

October 9, 2022

Jon Field, Lead Pastor

MESSAGE NOTES

2 Corinthians 6:3 – 13

Ways We Endure:

- We endure by being servants

We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited. Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; — 2 Corinthians 6:3 – 5

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that One has died for all, therefore all have died; and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised. — 2 Corinthians 5:14 – 15 (ESV)

... 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. — Hebrews 12:2 (ESV)

- We endure by using God's weapons

... in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; — 2 Corinthians 6:6 – 7

"Gospel doctrine creates cultures called churches, where wonderful things happen to unworthy people for the glory of God alone." — Ray Ortlund, The Gospel

- We endure by asking for God's perspective in it all

... through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything. — 2 Corinthians 6:8 – 10

... giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, — Colossians 1:12 – 13 (ESV)

We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you. We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us. As a fair exchange — I speak as to my children — open wide your hearts also. — 2 Corinthians 6:11 – 13



THORNS INTO GLORY

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- If you were to compete in any endurance sport, what would it be and why?
- What key truth did you take away from the teaching this Sunday?
- How does God turn our “thorns” into His glory?
- What does experiencing the love of Christ have to do with strengthening us with endurance in difficult circumstances?
- What are some “thorns” in your life that you are needing endurance with? How might God be using them for His glory as you trust Him?
- Read 2 Corinthians 6:11 – 12. Paul and some of the Corinthians were having a disagreement with each other that had become a thorn between them. What are some ways we “open our hearts” up to God and others in times of disagreement to turn the moment toward God’s glory?