

Hope City Church

Going Deeper Notes | 5.17.26

2 Corinthians 4:1-18

Stand Firm | You Are the Light in the Darkness

Icebreaker: Where do you see God doing amazing things right now?

Going Deeper:

- (1) In 2 Corinthians 4:1-2 (p. 883, Life Transformation Bible), we read about some ways that people were tricked by those who were distorting the Word of God. These four truths were addressed during the Sunday message. Which of these four is the hardest for you to defend? What would help you be more effective in talking about this?

Speaking the Truth...

#1 Rules? **OR** Grace?

Reference: Ephesians 2:8-9

#2 Many Ways? **OR** One Way?

Reference: John 14:6

#3 Love? **OR** Truth?

Reference: Ephesians 4:14-15

(This may be a trick question)

#4 Annihilationism? **OR** Eternal Suffering?

Reference: Matthew 25:41 | Matthew 25:46

| Isaiah 66:24 | Revelation 20:10 |

Revelation 14:11 | 2 Thessalonians 1:9 |

Jude 1:7 | Daniel 12:2 | Mark 9:43-48

- (2) Read 2 Corinthians 4:3-18. Powerful imagery is used to describe that even though we are fragile, like jars of clay, we NEVER QUIT! We may be pressed on every side by our troubles, but we are not crushed (vs. 8). We may be perplexed, but we are not driven to despair (vs. 8). We may be hunted down, but we are not abandoned by God (vs. 9). We may be knocked down, but we are not destroyed (vs. 9). This is why we NEVER GIVE UP (vs. 16)!

What is causing you to want to give up? Where do you need to see God's power right now? Make time to pray for each other in your group.

Next Steps: God's story is what makes your story so powerful, but only if you will choose to share it. Pick one thing that makes you feel weak right now. During this next week, look and listen for someone who could use some encouragement by hearing about your struggle. Be sure to emphasize God's presence and His faithfulness to you, in the midst of your struggle. Focus on God's strength more than your weakness.

Prayer: Jesus, I know that apart from you, I can do nothing. Help me to stand firm in the face of my weaknesses! Help me to humble myself enough to cry out to you for help, when I feel like I am depleted. I want to trust you completely, Lord. I know that despite my weakness, your power will prevail! **Amen!**