



2 Corinthians 4v1-12

From chapter 4 of Caring for one another:

“If we are to know and help each other, we will reside close to where someone’s world and heart meet”. This week, we heard how God’s glory shines through our weakness, through our ‘jars of clay’.

We face many difficulties, and the devil is active, using those difficulties to raise questions about God’s care and compassion (and his glory and goodness). We want to help each other keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, but we want to walk with care towards another person’s heart.

- 1) How has knowing the particulars about someone’s weaknesses contributed to your patience and love for that person?
- 2) We do not deny the hardships of life. Rather we want to speak them to the God who hears...and grow in trusting him. How can you help someone do that this week?

**Sermon questions:**

- 1. What causes us to lose heart in the mission? How do Paul's motivations encourage us to keep going as well?**
- 2. How settled are we in ourselves that being followers of Jesus means being on an unglamorous and persecuted path?**
- 3. How does having the treasure - of knowing Christ - in 'jars of clay' cause the power to be from God and not us?**
- 4. What might Paul mean in saying "always carrying around the death of Jesus" or "we who live are always being handed over to death for Jesus' sake"?**
- 5. How does carrying the death of Jesus show the life of Jesus?**