

Small Groups

Sermon Discussion Guide

October 26th, 2025 | The Book of 2 Corinthians

Prayer

Take time before discussion to take prayer requests and pray for each member of the group that requests prayer.

Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-18 out loud as a group.

1. How do pragmatism (self-reliance), intellectualism (knowledge), and emotionalism (comfort) challenge our dependence on The Lord?

These mindsets tempt us to find security in ourselves rather than in God's power. Encourage your group to share which of these pulls at them most and how it shows up in daily life. Help them see how weakness becomes a place where God's strength shines.

2. In what ways do these three (self-reliance, knowledge, and comfort) tend to slip into our faith?

Often, we can begin to rely on our plans, understanding, or feelings even while doing "spiritual" things. Invite the group to reflect on subtle ways these attitudes appear in church, prayer, or service, and discuss what it looks like to re-center dependence on the Spirit.

3. What do you think Paul understood about suffering that most of us still struggle to grasp?

Paul knew suffering wasn't a sign of God's absence but a means of revealing His glory. Encourage leaders to let their groups wrestle with how pain can produce endurance, compassion, and eternal perspective rather than despair.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:1-11 out loud as a group.

4. How does our hope of eternity shape our perspective of the present?

Paul reminds us that this life is temporary and points to something far better ahead. Guide your group to talk about how eternity gives purpose to today's struggles, helping us live with courage and faithfulness instead of fear or apathy.

5. In what ways is your faith deepened in every experience of life as we focus on Christ's return?

Every joy and hardship can become an opportunity to trust Christ more deeply. Encourage honest sharing about how focusing on His return changes our reactions, choices, and hope in daily life.

6. What does it look like to remain reliant on the sustaining power of The Spirit?

Dependence on the Spirit means walking in prayer, humility, and surrender, especially when we feel weak. Invite your group to identify specific rhythms or habits that help them stay aware of the Spirit's presence and power.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:13-20 out loud as a group.

7. If honoring The Lord is the highest aim in all that we do, what may need to be redirected in your life?

Paul calls us to live for Christ rather than ourselves. Help your group think practically about priorities, attitudes, or pursuits that might need to shift to better reflect His lordship.

8. How does our devotion to Christ direct our relationships and love for one another?

Christ's love compels us to see others differently, through grace, not judgment. Encourage stories of how knowing Christ has transformed the way members relate to family, friends, or even difficult people.

9. Where do you spend most of your invitations? How can we be more intentional to extend invitations for others to exalt Christ with us?

We naturally invite others into what we value most. Lead your group to consider where their time and conversations point others and brainstorm creative, sincere ways to invite people into encounters with Jesus.