

## LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

These questions are for the **May 15, 2016** sermon, "In Christ Our Lord." Please read the sermon passage (2 Corinthians 12:1-10) together out loud. Today we look at being "IN" Christ.

### Sermon Outline:

FOR THOSE IN CHRIST, NOTE . . .

1. **The revelations from God** (1-6)
  - A. The "super apostles" (2 Cor 11:5) tried to use claims to supernatural experiences to lord over others, thinking they were super spiritual, and becoming puffed-up.
  - B. Paul humbly appeals to his own supernatural experience, humbly giving glory to God.
    - i. He did not disclose the fullness of his personal experience with God.
    - ii. Some things are meant to forever remain personal.
    - iii. Paul's boasting was aimed at God's glory and the edification of others.
  - C. Note some other "in Christ" passages: Romans 6:23; 8:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17.
2. **The resources from God** (7-10)
  - A. Often after spiritual "highs," God puts us through valleys to keep us humble.
    - i. Examples: Jesus' baptism prior to his wilderness temptation; the "inner circle" experience Jesus' transfiguration followed by spiritual warfare.
    - ii. Low-points in our lives can come from God.
  - B. When we ask for removal of the pain, God may give us the resources (strength) to endure the pain, instead.

### Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: It is crucial that we never assume that we are in Christ based on words, or a family legacy or our own hard work. Discuss trusting Christ alone and being "in Christ." Note the references under "C," above.
2. Based on #1, above: When we have had a life-changing experience with God, we can tell the story in such a way that we are just boasting about ourselves, or tell the story in such a way that we speak about God and his grace. When you tell your story of being in Christ, does the glory go to God? Or you?
3. Based on #2, above: Spiritual highs are often (maybe "usually") followed by trying days, and often spiritual warfare. Do you have an example of this from your own life? How did the "valley" humble you and help you give glory to God?
4. Based on #2, above: Sometimes God removes the pain. Sometimes he is your resource to bear the pain. Discuss. Consider this quote: "Your strength for tomorrow may grow out of today's most debilitating weakness."