


GOD'S POWER OUR CONFIDENCE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS


2 CORINTHIANS 4:1-7

1 **In 2 Corinthians 4:1, Paul says that “we have received ministry by the mercy of God.”** Read 1 Timothy 1:13-16. What are some of the key terms Paul uses to describe his former life?

 *How does your experience of God's mercy compare to Paul's? Without glorifying our sin, what terms describe your life before you came to know the mercy of God?*


 *How does a reminder of your need for God's mercy help you better understand the ministry God has given you?*

2 **Christians are men and women who “openly speak the truth.”** What does it look like to do that in Salt Lake City in 2019?


 *In what ways are Christians tempted to state the truth differently? What are some of the “disgraceful or underhanded ways” that Christians can “practice cunning or tamper” with the Gospel? (2 Cor. 4:2)*


3 **To share the gospel effectively, we must be men and women of integrity.** What is integrity and how is it essential to sharing the Christian message in a dark world?

 *Why is a refusal to compromise the gospel an issue of integrity? When are you tempted to compromise the message of the gospel today?*


 *Our lives also proclaim the gospel message. Can you think of a past or present circumstance that cheapened your ability to share the gospel? If so, share it.*


4 **In vs5, Paul says tht we are slaves, because of Jesus.** What does that mean in your own words?


 *How are the practices of genuinely proclaiming Jesus and regularly living to serve others inseparable? When are you tempted to disconnect those two things?*

 *What are some practical ways to make sure that when we serve, Christ is honored, instead of ourselves?*


5 Paul was being criticized by false teachers. They claimed that he was weak and not what they expected from someone who claimed to be an Apostle. Paul's response in 2 Cor. 11:16-32 was to share what validated his Apostleship, but instead of boasting in those, he chose to boast in his weaknesses (2 Cor 11:30-12:10). How is our brokenness as Christians actually a good thing? Consider what Paul says in 2 Cor. 4:7.


 *What do you notice about Paul's message that God triumphs amid human weakness, embodying the principle of Christ's crucifixion from 1 Cor. 1:27; 2 Cor. 10:3; 11:30; 12:5, 9; 13:4, 9.*


 *In what ways do you become discouraged by your weaknesses and frailties? Instead of living in integrity about them, what are you most tempted to do?*

 *What are some ways that your weakness and frailty can showcase God's glory while you still seek to live a life of integrity?*

6 What specific opportunities to share the gospel has God positioned you for? Who has God put into your life or on your heart to reach with the Gospel?

 *In what ways have you found yourself feeling discouraged or defeated in sharing the gospel? Have you grown weary of Satan's work in blinding the eyes of unbelievers?*

 *How does the promise of God's "creation work" through our gospel witness help you stay faithful to the task even in times of discouragement?*

 *Trusting God to work, is there a creative way to share Christ with them this week? Spend 3-5 minutes right now thinking and praying about how they could know more about Christ from you. Write out your plan.*

7 Take time to pray. Thank God for His mercy in saving you and positioning you for gospel ministry. Ask Him to help your group persevere even in the midst of discouragement. Ask Him to grow your confidence in the truth and power of the gospel.

PRAYER REQUESTS
