



You're Welcome Here!



Lessons in Discipleship from 2 Corinthians
1. Handling Rejection & Learning Reliance

19th January 2020

Study Guide – Lessons in Discipleship from 2 Corinthians

Study 3 – Treasure in Jars of Clay

We carry God's glorious presence in our weak, fragile bodies – like treasure in jars of clay. We are both recipients and custodians of this glorious treasure.

Please read **2 Corinthians 4.4; 1 Corinthians 2.6,20-21; Romans 1.20-22; John 1.9,11**

1. What did Paul mean by the 'god of this age'? And how did it blind people's minds?
2. The influential atheist Richard Dawkins advises us, "By all means let's be open-minded, but not so open-minded that our brains drop out." He considers that to be open-minded (like him) is wise and intelligent. But to be so open-minded as to include the possibility of God's Sovereignty (unlike him) is unwise, unintelligent and closed-minded. How do you experience the pressure of this god-like 'wisdom' of our age, in your life?

Please read **2 Corinthians 4.6**

3. People can describe and explain God to us, but the transforming illumination of our lives by the light of Jesus' glory is only something God alone can do, with our permission. Please take time in your group to worship God for the life-changing light you have received from God that enables you to say – I know God, and I love God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Please read **2 Corinthians 4.7-10; 4.16-18**

4. Why (in this context) should we not lose heart in living as disciples of Jesus?

Please read **2 Corinthians 3.18; Philippians 1.9**

The light of God in our lives is intended to be continuously transforming us day by day into more glorious Christlikeness. But this glorious process is dependent upon us being willing – those who 'contemplate (and reflect) the Lord's glory' are being transformed...

5. What's your daily spiritual discipline for contemplating the Lord's glory, so that you can then reflect the Lord's glory in your life?

Please read **Ephesians 5.13; 2 Corinthians 4.13-14; 2 Corinthians 4.1-2; 1 Corinthians 2.3-5**

The Illuminated life becomes a light in the darkness. God's light in us makes us a light for others

6. Why is it vital (in this context), that we do not lose heart?
7. Read again **2 Corinthians 4.2**, Why is the means by which we transmit God's light significant?