



Open Heart: Living in Christ With Nothing to Hide
Staying Humble in the Supernatural
2 Corinthians 12:1-10 | February 14th - 20th, 2016

Warm Up: What comes to mind when you hear the word *supernatural*? How do you respond to this word? What is “supernatural” about the Christian life in your view?

- ❖ Read **2 Corinthians 12:1-5** and **1 Corinthians 14:3-4, 26**. False apostles were trying to draw away the people of Corinth by their boasting in visions and revelations.
 - What was Paul’s approach in addressing these false apostles?
 - In the **1 Cor.** passage, what does Paul say *true* ministry should be measured by?
 - What do you think was Paul’s perspective on the ultimate goal of spiritual gifts?
- ❖ Are we *always* to pray and never give up on what we ask for? (See **Luke 18:1-8**) How do we reconcile this with what we learned about Paul’s thorn in the flesh in **2 Cor. 12:7-9**?
- ❖ Have one or two people share about a time in his/her life when God showed up in a powerful way.
 - What was the background and situation that led up to this?
 - In what ways (good and bad) did this experience affect your life?
 - How was God glorified?
 - What did it do for your faith?
- ❖ Read **2 Corinthians 12:6-10** aloud. We aren’t told what the thorn in the flesh was for Paul and we know that he had asked for its removal 3 times. The beauty was that God answered him all 3 times. The difficulty was God’s answer wasn’t what Paul had hoped.
 - Have you experienced a “thorn” in the flesh? How were you able to cope?
 - How does the knowledge that God allowed this thorn to be given to Paul bring comfort into your situation?
 - What does God want to do with this thorn if it’s not removed?
 - Why is humility such an important quality in a Christian’s life?

Wrap Up: Read **2 Corinthians 12:10** aloud. Make this your collective prayer! Ask the Lord for grace and strength to be content through your weaknesses as we learn to depend on the Lord who promises to make us strong!