#### Paul's Vision and His Thorn 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

Why does God... Why did God...

- The Vision and the messenger of Satan (1-7).
  - a. Looking back in the book we get a couple of clues to why he uses this kind of language.
  - b. "Caught up to paradise.
    - i. What did he see?
    - ii. His word: inexpressible.
  - c. Paul's confidence lies not in his power of position, but instead where God has to take over!
  - d. God allowed the messenger of Satan.
- Why not take it all away? Sometimes God leaves the thorn... (Read 8-10 again).
  - a. To \_\_\_\_\_ us humble.
    - i. James 4:10.
    - ii. The fall with our big britches is usually a pretty hard fall!
  - b. To \_\_\_\_\_ us of His strength.
    - i. "My power is made perfect in your weakness."
    - ii. Being incompetent is not always a bad thing.
  - c. To \_\_\_\_\_ us grow.
    - i. God is more concerned with our character than he is with our comfort.
    - ii. Don't we do the same thing for our kids?
  - d. To \_\_\_\_\_ us the rely on him.
    - i. Is. 41:13.
    - ii. Deut. 31:6.
    - iii. Israel's greatest failures came when they tried to do it alone.

When have you felt the weakest? What has your "thorn" led you to become?

Elder Chairman of the Month Wayne Fenter - Lee Rogers Kent Taylor - David West Tim Dunnahoo Doug Austin



# Periodical Postage

Encourager (USPS 046-130) is published weekly except Thanksgiving and Christi Church of Christ, 700 W. Country Club Road, P.O. Box 81, Roswell, New Mexico Periodical Postage paid at Roswell, New Mexico, 88202-0081. POSTMASTER: S address changes to Encourager, P.O. Box 81, Roswell, New Mexico 88202-0081



Song Leader: Kent Taylor

Call to worship: 252 – Create In Me

Welcome: Oscar Hernandez

**Songs:** 541 – Blessed Assurance

504 - It Is Well with My Soul (vs 1, 3, 4)

170 - Shine, Jesus, Shine (vs 1, 2)

135 – On Zion's Glorious Summit (vs 1, 3)

Communion Song: 310 – Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (vs 1, 3, 4)

**Communion Thought:** Noah McCarty

**Song:** 591 – When Upon Life's Billows (vs 1, 2, 4)

**Sermon:** Doug Austin – "Paul's Vision and His Thorn" **Invitation Song:** 880 – Softly and Tenderly (vs 1, 2, 4)

Closing Song: 542 – Faith Is the Victor (vs 1, 3)

**Closing Prayer:** 

#### Sunday Morning Bible study (9:00 a.m.)

1 John – Doug Austin (Rm. 25)

Genesis – Oscar H, Quinton F, Jesse M (Small F)

Revelation (Spanish Class) – Mynor Vasquez (Rm. 22)

Jr. High/High School – Thomas Beard (Teen Room – Rm. 26)

JL 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade – various classrooms, look for blue flag

JL 1st - 3rd grade - various classrooms, look for red flag

4's, 5's & Kinder – Amy Joy (Rm. 12)

2's & 3's - Rachel & Mattie McCarty (Rm. 3)

Nursery up through age 2 – Various teachers (Rm. 1)



Visitors, please scan this QR code and tell us a little about yourself!

#### **Prayer Requests**

- o **Billy Richards** has moved to the Rehab Center on the ENMU-R campus after having her hip repaired last week.
- Vernon Fenter remains hospitalized and is being treated for a blood infection. He will move to Casa Maria soon.
- Jerry Salyards remains at Casa Maria where he is recovering and gaining strength following a long stint in the hospital.

#### **Continue in Prayer**

Rosemary O'Neal, Anita Zuniga, Clara O'Neil, Wanda Walker, Sam & Pat Gentry, Cheryl Ringheimer, Helen Aston, Elaine Bell, Kathleen Sherman, Doris Rodriguez, Lauren Simons, Chris & Glenna Bertola, Mary Ann Baeza, Pat Davenport, Larry Young, Ray Magness

#### WHY I VOLUNTEER

It's not for the money, nor for the fame,
It's not for any personal gain.
It's just for the love of fellow man,
It's just to lend a helping hand.
It's just to give a little of self,
That's something you can't buy with wealth.
It's not for the medals won with pride,
It's just for the feeling deep inside.
It's that reward deep in your heart,
It's the feeling you have been a part
of helping others far and near
That makes you be a volunteer.



## Life@CCR

- Thanks to all those who were able to participate & attend our VBS program and ice cream social! We had a whopping 406 people in attendance!!!
- Our pantry is running low...items needed include crackers, canned soups, canned meats (spam, vienna sausage), jelly, ramen noodles & canned vegetables.
   Donations can be dropped by the office at any time.
- We will have a table setup from June 11<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> to honor Brooklyn Knight and her soon-to-be husband, Josef Roberson. Brooklyn & Josef are registered at Amazon and Bed, Bath & Beyond.
- The church is helping to sponsor several kids to attend summer camp this year. If you would like to donate towards this cause contributions can be given to Doug or Lindsay.
- Kerry & Becky Holton will return next weekend, June 17-18. Vision statements from the Vision Casting Team have been forwarded to the elders for their consideration.
   Please continue to pray for our elders as they discuss and finalize a vision for the future of our church family and Vison 2030!

### From the Mailbag

We got the package from the church and it was like Christmas!! We enjoyed and appreciated all of the letters written. Nothing compares to the love shown by our brothers and sisters in Christ. We miss all of you and wish we could be in two places. Life changes and we have to make changes. One things is certain, God never changes and is always with us wherever we go. Thank you again, church, for reaching out to us. God bless you and the work there is our prayer.

In love,

Chris and Glenna

#### Week @ a Glance

**Celebrations & Happenings** 

11 <sup>th</sup>	Bible Class @ 9 a.m.
	A.M. worship @ 10 a.m., also available on 106.5 FM,
	Facebook Live & YouTube.
	Kiana Bailey, Rylie Cole & Yasmine Magana's b-day.
14 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday evening bible class @ 6:30 p.m.
15 <sup>th</sup>	Adam Ramirez, Becsave Pacheco & Benny Wilson's
	b-day.
16 <sup>th</sup>	Lori Cox's b-day.
17 <sup>th</sup>	Lee Rogers IV & Jensen Van Winkle's b-day.

#### **Study Guide**

Text: 2 Cor. 12:1-10

- 1. Is there an easy way to answer the questions: Why does and why did?
- 2. Paul uses the word "inexpressible" regarding what he saw in paradise. What does that tell you about what he saw?
- 3. How has Paul's thorn affected his life?
- 4. How do you react when God appears to be silent in answer to your urgent request?
- 5. How has God worked in and through you during a time of weakness? Is it possible to be thankful for those moments?
- 6. Why is God more concerned with our character than he is our comfort. How is this born out in our lives?

#### **Those Scheduled to Serve for May**

**Deacons on Duty**: Dan Montgomery, Jose Baeza, Brandon

Cometti, Brian Houghtalin

Men on Duty: Kevin McCormack, Thomas Beard