

Message Notes

February 4, 2007

God's Testing: *Grace*
(2 Corinthians 12:7-10)
Brian Schwarberg

- ◆ Testing is part of God's _____ plan to _____ us. (2 Tim. 3:12)

Paul and Grace

- ◆ Paul's life was turned _____ by grace. (Acts 9; 1 Tim. 1:16)
- ◆ *Grace* = "a _____" or "undeserved _____."
- ◆ Grace is not just for the _____ of the Christian life. (John 1:16)

Paul and Grace

- ◆ What Paul thought would _____ his ministry turned out to be a _____.

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you; my power is made perfect in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12:9 (NIV)

- ◆ Like Paul, we pray for _____, not _____ . (2 Cor. 2:8)
- ◆ Through testing, we are transformed more and more into the _____ of Jesus Christ.
- ◆ When we are _____, God's _____ (grace) flows through us (1 Cor. 1:9)

Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:9b-12 (NIV)

- ◆ God's _____ in our lives is actually a gift (Philipp. 1:29)
- ◆ *I delight in weakness* = "I will _____ ." (2 Cor. 12:10)

Our Response to God's Testing

- ◆ Will I say _____ to God's testing if it _____ me to be more like Christ?