

# Study Guide

## For the Week of December 7, 2008

*This study guide is designed to help you to become more familiar with the Bible. Study these passages on your own, with a friend, or with a group. If you or someone you know needs a Bible, please take one from under a chair in the Worship Center. They are there for you to take home and use! Message manuscripts are available at [www.spwired.com](http://www.spwired.com).*

**Monday**—On Sunday Aaron talked about those times when we wonder where God is; where God's power is in the face of difficulty. Know that even spiritual giants, like the Apostle Paul faced similar thoughts and feelings. Read **2 Corinthians 1:8-11** in the New Testament. What situations is Paul describing here? What difficult situations does this bring to mind in your own life? What is Paul's answer for the difficulties? What does he say about the power of Jesus in harsh situations? How does this apply to your life today?

**Tuesday**— Read **2 Corinthians 4:7-12** in the New Testament. What does this say about God's power? What does it say about our relationship to God's power? What does it mean that we are just clay jars? When it comes to God's power at work in us, for us, and through us, how does humility play a role?

**Wednesday**—Read **2 Corinthians 12:7-10** in the New Testament. Paul has a thorn in his flesh that he asks God to take away. We don't know he meant by that, but most scholars say that it was some sort of physical ailment. Others say it was an inner struggle of some sort. In either case, what might you say is your "thorn in the flesh"? How can you surrender that to Christ so that his power can be made evident in you?

**Thursday**— Read **2 Timothy 1:7** and **Ephesians 3:16** in the New Testament. In both of these scriptures Paul talks again about power. What power do you think God wants you to have? How does God want us to implement the power he gives us and do so responsibly? Have you ever been afraid of the power you have to make an impact in the lives of others? Why or why not? How do these passages address that potential fear?

**Friday**—Read **Luke 9:1-2** in the New Testament. Jesus clearly wants his followers to have his power in them. What does he tell his disciples this power is to be used for? How might Jesus be working his power **through** you to make an impact in this world? What might hold you back from that?

## Prayer Concerns

### Serving in Iraq:

Curtis Phillips  
Cyle Haywood (non-military)

### Military:

Jesse Smith  
Nathan Lawellin  
Matthew Peak  
Stephen Leadbetter  
Richard Hurst  
James Lesimeister  
Jon Arnold  
Jason Lewis

### Health & Healing:

Anna Jean Dye  
Connie Purdy  
Elliot Sutherland  
Katrina Feller  
Mick Pace  
Danny Tyler  
Brynn Phipps  
J. C. Hodgson

### Cancer Treatment:

Sonja Davidson  
Tracy Bowman

### Other Concerns:

Luke & Andrea Fields  
Mildred Sorensen  
Chris Geer  
Franklin Hasenplaugh  
Donny Cain  
Jacob Haynes