



Sermon
Discussion
Guide

Sunday, September 25, 2022

Undone: Undoing Our Folly

Read/Reflect

1. Read II Corinthians 4:1-12. With verse 7 as the central image, what in the rest of this passage would you designate as treasure, and what is the “jar of clay?”
2. While Paul never accuses the Corinthians directly of mixing up the treasure with that which merely contains the treasure, there are indications in the rest of the letter that this was Paul’s concern. Can you identify some ways (by scanning the rest of the II Corinthians) that this may have been happening. (see 5:1-10; 8:1-15; 10:1-7; 11:1-15; 13:1-5).
3. What does Paul mean in II Cor. 4:10 - *We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body?*

Explore

4. What is some evidence that the church is a jar of clay, vulnerable to breaking easily? That is, can you identify where the church (globally and/or locally) is hard pressed, perplexed, persecuted, struck down.
5. When does or has the gospel of Jesus Christ most felt like a treasure to you? What exactly is the great value of the treasure?
6. Paul starts this section with “therefore ... we don’t lose heart (vs.1)” and then ends with the same admonition in vs. 16. What is it that makes Paul insist on not losing heart? With respect to your practice of faith, what causes you to lose heart? What can you do to strengthen your commitment not to lose heart?
7. What gets in the way of seeing the glorious presence of God (treasure)? Or, what are the cracked pots in your life?
 - My own pride
 - My trust in human ability
 - Thinking God serves my purposes
 - Not seeing change as (opportunity for) renewal
 - Other: _____

Pray

- Pray for a desire to treasure the glory of God and his presence in your life – even, or especially in times of hardship or confusion.
- Pray for New Life Church, that it may be a worthy vessel to the community for the treasure of the gospel.