MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK:

2 Corinthians 5:20-21 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.



MY NOTES My Insights / My Questions

MONDAY, APRIL 18

Read 2 Corinthians 2—Forgiven

- 1. What is one of Satan's strategies for causing sorrow and division within the church community? What is the goal of discipline in the church? Is it punishment or reconciliation?
- 2. Who is leading Paul on his journeys? Do things always go according to Paul's plans?
- 3. What a wonderful picture Paul paints about evangelizing. How pleasant is your fragrance among those who are perishing?
- Prayer: Lord, give us wisdom to speak discipline and forgiveness for the sake of our neighbor, and not for our own satisfaction.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

Read 2 Corinthians 3—Confident

- 1. In what sense are we "living letters"? What happens when people "read" something in you that they admire and mention it to you?
- Why is the Holy Spirit essential to help people see truth clearly? What kind of freedom does the Spirit give us when we become Christians?
- 3. Why can we now see the glory of God and not be blinded and destroyed by it?
- Prayer: Lord, let us see clearly the hope that You have given us through Your cross and resurrection.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

Read 2 Corinthians 4—Restored

- 1. Are the unbelievers our enemy? Who blinds the unfaithful and who is our real enemy? How does this knowledge help us witness?
- 2. Is our broken world and are our broken lives too messed up for God? What restorative treasure is stored for us in the clay jars Paul describes?
- 3. Why is it so easy to focus on earthly matters to the exclusion of eternal things? What can we do to help shift our focus to the "things unseen"?
- Prayer: Lord, prepare us and connect us to share Your gift of mercy to the despairing.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 21

Read 2 Corinthians 5—Reconciled

- 1. In what sense are our bodies like tents? If we were to truly look forward to our "house not made with hands," how would it affect our daily lives?
- 2. How has Christ reconciled us to God (v19, v21)? What are the many gifts this reconciliation brings now and forever?
- 3. How does the daily remembrance of our baptism allow us to reconcile to those we guarrel with?
- Prayer: Jesus, thank You for taking all my sins upon Your cross and dying with them.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Read 2 Corinthians 6—Holy

- 1. Why do you think Paul shares so much about his various struggles with the Corinthians? How does this help them accept his apostleship as authentic?
- 2. What kind of separation is Paul calling the Corinthians to do? How do we strike a balance between this call to purity to not jeopardize our faith and to serve and witness to our neighbors?
- Prayer: Lord, keep my body and mind pure so that it is apparent that I belong to You alone.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Read 2 Corinthians 7—Comforted

- 1. What are the differences Paul describes between godly grief and worldly grief? What do they each produce in the end?
- 2. Through 7 chapters of 2 Corinthian, reconciliation finally seems to come to Paul and the Corinthians. Did this come about by ignoring differences, divorcing?
- 3. Briefly re-read 2 Corinthians 1:3-7. Does the faith you have in Christ bring comfort in your life?
- Prayer: Lord, let those who have fallen away from Your light experience Your love again.

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^{***} Some prayers taken from LSB.