

The Book of 2 Corinthians

3

Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

This morning we will read **2 Corinthians 3:1-4:6** and look at Paul's explanation to the Corinthian Christians of his whole basis for ministry in their lives. This passage can be divided into three subsections. Read each subsection, answering for yourself the questions associated with them. Type out your answers or jot them down on a piece of paper and file your answers with your morning study.

Read 2 Corinthians 3:1-6

- What did Paul claim was his letter of recommendation and how was that letter written? (**3:1-3**).
- Where did Paul say his confidence and competence came from? (**3:4-5**).
- How does **3:5** relate to **2:16**?
- What did Paul declare he was competent to be (**3:6**)? How did this compare with those who were trying to undermine Paul's ministry? (**11:2-6,13-15**).

Read 2 Corinthians 3:7-18

- How does Paul compare the Old and New Covenants? (**3:7-18**).
- Moses experienced a "fading" glory under the Old Covenant (**3:7,11,13**). What kind of glory do we experience under the New Covenant? (**3:10,18**).
- What happens to the "veil" over our minds when we turn to Christ? (**3:16**).
- Where does freedom come from? (**3:17-18**).
- Where does transformation in "ever-increasing glory" come from? (**3:18**).

Read 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

- Why did Paul say he did not lose heart? (**4:1**).
- How did Paul minister to the Corinthians? (**4:2**). And how did that compare with those who were trying to undermine Paul's ministry? (**11:13-15**).
- Why is the Gospel "veiled to those who are perishing"? (**4:3-4**).
- What did Paul preach to the Corinthians? (**4:5**).
- What did God give us when he "made his light shine in our hearts"? (**4:6**).

Memory Verse

And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect
the Lord's glory, are being transformed into
his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which
comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:18

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!