

The Book of 2 Corinthians

2

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

Over the next four mornings, we will read **2 Corinthians 1-7** in more detail. This major section divides into four minor sections:

- Paul's introduction and reason for writing – **1:1-2:17**
- Paul's basis for ministry – **3:1-4:6**
- Paul's weakness in ministry – **4:7-5:10**
- Paul's invitation to join him in ministry – **5:11-7:16**

This morning we will read **1:1-2:17** again. 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 1:1-11

- What did the revelation of God as "the God of all comfort" mean for Paul personally and for the Corinthian Christians? (**1:3-4**).
- What is the relationship between the sufferings of Christ and the comfort of Christ? (**1:5-7**) – note also **Philippians 3:10**.
- What did Paul not want the Corinthians to be uninformed of? (**1:8-11**).

Read 2 Corinthians 1:12-22

- What does Paul want the Corinthians to understand about him? (**1:12-14**).
- Why would the Corinthians think Paul is saying "Yes," then "No"? (**1:15-17**).
- What two words summarize all the promises of God? (**1:18-20**).

Read 2 Corinthians 1:23-2:17

- Why did Paul not want to make "another painful visit" to Corinth? (**1:23-2:2**).
- Why did Paul write his previous letter to the Corinthians? (**2:3-4**).
- Why should the Corinthians extend forgiveness to the repentant sinner? (**2:11**).
- What was the fragrance spread by the preaching of God's Word? (**2:14-16**).

Memory Verse

But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphant procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him.

2 Corinthians 2:14

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!