



TRUE STRENGTH

THE POWER & WEAKNESS OF YOUR EXPERIENCES

2 CORINTHIANS 12:1-6

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Compass Bible Church • May 30 & 31, 2026 • 2 Corinthians, week 50 • Msg. 26-20

1. Share _____ (v.1)

2. See _____ (vv.2-4)

3. Know _____ (vv.5-6)

2 Cor. 12:1 *I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.*

2 *I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. **3** And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— **4** and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter.*

5 *On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses—*

6 *though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. (ESV)*

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Psalm 66:16**. The psalmist feels compelled to share what God has done for his soul. What makes this kind of story so different from the experience-sharing Paul warns against in 2 Corinthians 12?
2. Read **Mark 5:18-20**. Jesus sends this man home to tell what God had done for him. What God-honoring aspects of your own conversion or his merciful work in your life should you be more resolved to share with others this week?
3. Read **John 13:35**. Jesus identifies love as the defining mark others will use to recognize his disciples. What are you doing to ensure that love is genuinely growing in your heart rather than slowly growing cold?
4. Read **Ephesians 4:14-15**. Paul calls Christians to speak truth in love as the antidote to spiritual immaturity. Why does lovingly correcting wrong thinking so often feel unloving, and what does that tell us about our own hearts?
5. Read **Romans 1:16** and **1 Corinthians 1:24-25**. The gospel looks weak and foolish to the world yet carries divine power to save. How should that reality change the way you think and feel about speaking up for the truth?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 24-18 – **The Role of Your Testimony**

Msg. 15-54 – **The Salvation Experience**

Msg. 13-02 – **Why “As You Are” Can’t Stay that Way**

Msg. 13-57 – **Regeneration & The Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

Msg. 13-58 – **The Indwelling & Sealing of the Holy Spirit**

Msg. 19-55 – **Biblical Miracles: Did the Really Happen?**

Msg. 04-21 – 04-25 – **Untwisting the Tongues** Issue (a five-part series on 1 Cor.14)

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

May 31st 2Chr. 1-3 & Jn. 12:1-19

June 1st 2Chr. 4-6 & Jn. 12:20-50

June 2nd 2Chr. 7-9 & Jn. 13:1-17

June 3rd 2Chr. 10-12 & Jn. 13:18-38

June 4th 2Chr. 13-16 & Jn. 14

June 5th 2Chr. 17-19 & Jn. 15

June 6th 2Chr. 20-22 & Jn. 16:1-15

June 7th 2Chr. 23-25 & Jn. 16:16-33

Here are some books that may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Beasley, Michael John. **The Fallible Prophets of New Calvinism**. Armoury Ministries, 2014.

Bowman, Robert M. **The Word-Faith Controversy: Understanding the Health and Wealth Gospel**. Baker Books, 2001.

Bunyan, John. **Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners**. Baker Books, 1986.

Chantry, Walter J. **Signs of the Apostles: Observations on Pentecostalism Old and New**. Banner of Truth, 1973.

Cho, Sung Wook. **Defending Agabus as a New Testament Prophet**. Christian Publishing House, 2018.

Edgar, Thomas R. **Satisfied by the Promise of the Spirit**. Kregel Publications, 1996.

Gaffin, Richard B., Jr. **Perspectives on Pentecost**. P&R Publishing, 1979.

Geisler, Norman L. **Signs and Wonders: Miracles and Unusual Events**. Tyndale House Publishers, 1988.

Hinn, Costi, and Anthony Wood. **Defining Deception**. SCS Press, 2018.

Johnson, Arthur. **Faith Misguided: Exposing the Dangers of Mysticism**. Moody Press, 1988.

MacArthur, John. **Strange Fire**. Thomas Nelson, 2013.

Masters, Peter, and John C. Whitcomb. **The Charismatic Phenomenon**. Wakeman Trust, 1982.

Napier, John. **Charismatic Challenge: Four Key Questions**. Providence House Publishers, 1995.