**SCRIPTURE:** 2 CORINTHIANS 12:7–10

Read 2 Corinthians 12:7–8 and discuss 1–2 of these questions:

* Why do you think the Bible never tells us what Paul’s thorn was?
* What types of struggles did Paul experience because of his relationship with God?
* How do you think struggles can help us grow in our relationship with God?

Read 2 Corinthians 12:9–10 and discuss 1–2 of these questions:

How can the grace God provides change the way you react to pain and suffering?

How can rejoicing in your struggle change your perspective and experience of that struggle?

In what ways has God’s strength helped you through a recent struggle?

CONNECTION

How do you think Bethany's faith helped her get through this struggle?

How can God helping you to push through struggles be an encouragement to other people?

MARK OF A DISCIPLE

Disciples of Christ rely on God's grace and strength during times of pain and struggle.

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| APPLY IT  Identify a struggle in your life and consider how that struggle can help you rely on God’s grace. Once you do, rejoice in that struggle by telling a trusted friend what it is and how it is helping you grow spiritually. | ***Be specific:***  What are you going to do?  When are you going to do it?  Is there someone who can keep you accountable? |

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| PRAYER  Take time to pray for each other’s applications in the upcoming weeks. | MEMORY VERSE |