

“We reject all shameful deeds and underhanded methods. We don’t try to trick anyone or distort the word of God. We tell the truth before God, and all who are honest know this.

We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves.”

2 Corinthians 4:2, 7 NLT

lectio // 2 Corinthians 4:1-12

The letters to the churches at Corinth are so interesting and rich with deep theology and beautiful, practical life application as well. Paul constantly talks about his motives to these churches. This second letter has more soul-bearing honesty about the real life of an apostle. It was not glamorous, Here Paul tells the churches straight up, “we are not a scam!” And, instead of going on to prove how “valuable” he is, he compares himself to common clay pots that are buried in walls and caves that contain the most precious items of the household. He is NOT the treasure, he’s the important, but disposable container. There are so many modern “voices for God” today, few who are humble and few that have ever come close to the suffering the apostle. It makes me wonder about the message we are sending. Not many want to be the church of the old clay pots! Yet, if the content, the treasure is so valuable, maybe we should highlight that more than the containers.

oratio

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

I am not asking nor praying for humility, I know how that prayer works 😊. I am asking to remember what and who the treasure really is. To display the wonder of your love and grace, to pour out the power of the content of Christ through my life. That is what I want - today, every day.

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root