

# genesis church begin. believe. become.

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# **TUESDAY**

6:00 Pastor's Bible Study at the Church

NO Community Group this Week

#### WEDNESDAY

6:00 Worship Team Practice at the Church 6:30 Youth Group at Libby & Jon's Place 1276 44th Ave

Lesson: Adulting is Hard - Lesson 1

### **THURSDAY**

6:00 Ladies Devotions at the Beach

## **SATURDAY**

8:00 AM - Reflective Walk Memorial Island



# PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR

Don Randall as he awaits his last chemo treatment on June 3rd and continues his journey to complete healing.

Ken & Celeste as they continue their trip. They are in Annapolis - anchored in front of the Navel Academy and will spend the Memorial Day weekend there.

# PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR PRAYER LIST:

Jackie Hiers as she heals from injuries sustained from an automobile accident.

Sue Hamilton

**David Thomas** 

Ray & Kathleen Grochowski

# A Message from Pastor Derrick

# A Prayer of Struggle

# For This Reason, I Kneel #2

2 Cor. 12:7-10

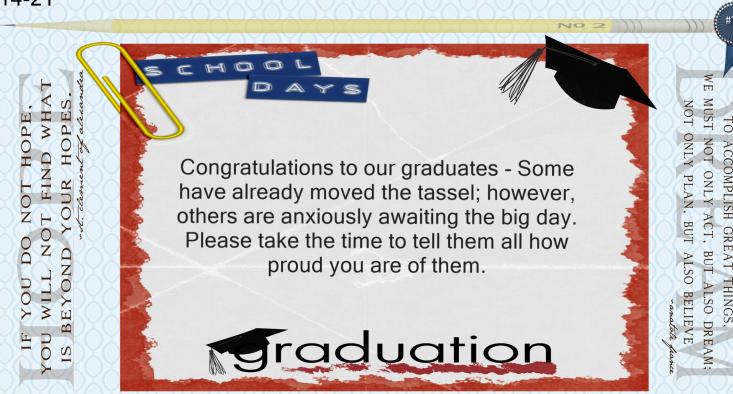
How many times in your life have you had a "thorn in the flesh" that you prayed and prayed for God to remove only to have it remain? It sometimes even seems to become more of a problem. Paul knew exactly how you felt.

He also knew how to see the thorn from God's perspective in his life. Today we examine his thorn and how he handled it in Paul's Prayer of Struggle found in 2 Cor 12:7-10.

In a Prayer of Struggle, You Agree With God That:

- 1. Thorns in the flesh have a provident design and origin (12:7)
  - a. A Grand Designer
    - b. A Malicious Choreographer
    - c. But a Provident Purpose
- 2. Reason for the thorn is to move you to your knees (12:8)
  - a. To Labor in Communication with the Almighty
  - b. To Labor in Communication Completely, Totally, Without Restraint
- 3. Your desire for smooth sailing isn't his primary concern for your life (12:9)
  - a. Living in grace in all circumstance is
  - b. Relying on his power in your weakest areas is
- 4. A new outlook on the thorn is his desire for you (12:10)
  - a. A New Boast
  - b. A New Perspective

Next Week's Message will be <u>A Prayer for Others</u> taken from Ephesians 3: 14-21





# Remember

Memorial Day, as Americans have come to know it, began in the years immediately following the Civil War. But until World War II, most people knew it as "Decoration Day." It was a day to decorate with flowers and flags the graves of fallen soldiers and remember those who had given, as Lincoln beautifully said, "the last full measure of devotion" to defend their nation. It was a day to remember what the honored dead had died to defend.

More than a century and a half has passed since Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox, effectively ending a national nightmare that filled over 625,000 American graves with dead soldiers. Since then, other international nightmares have ravaged the world and put more than 650,000 additional Americans into war graves in Europe, North Africa, the Pacific Rim, Asia, and the Middle East.

# Remembering Is for the Future

Memorial Day is an important national moment. It is a day to do more than barbecue. It is right and wise to remember the great

price some have paid to preserve the historically unprecedented civil and religious freedoms we Americans have the luxury to take largely for granted.

But the importance of Memorial Day is more for our future than it is for our past. It is crucial that we remember the nightmares and why they happened. We forget them at our own peril. The future of the United States depends in large amount on how well we collectively remember and cherish what liberty really is and the terror of tyranny. There is a high cost to forgetting. In the words of George Santayana's famous aphorism, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

# A Memorial People

Christians, of all people, understand the crucial importance of remembering. Christians are "memorial people" because the whole of our faith depends upon remembering. Those who persevere into the glorious future are those who remember the gracious past.

That's why God has surrounded us with memorials. The entire Bible itself is a memorial. We meditate on it daily to remember. The Sabbath was a memorial to Israel's freedom from Egyptian slavery (Deuteronomy 5:15), and the church switched it to Sundays as a memorial to Christ's resurrection and our freedom from sin. Israel's great gathering feast days were memorials (Exodus 13:3). And now each time a local church gathers, each Lord's Supper celebration (1 Corinthians 11:24-26), each baptism, each Christmas celebration, and each Easter celebration is a memorial.

Remembering God's past grace is necessary to fuel our faith in God's future grace for us.† This makes the memory one of God's most profound, mysterious, and merciful gifts granted to us. God designed it to be a means of preserving (persevering) grace for his people. We neglect it at our own peril.

The future of the church, globally and locally, and of each Christian depends largely on how well we remember the gospel of Jesus, all his precious and very great promises, and the successes and failures of church history. Scripture warns us that if we fail to remember, we will be condemned to submit again to sin's and hell's enslavement (Hebrews 6:4-8). Such warnings are graces to help us remember.

So as we commemorate Memorial Day as Americans, let us do it with profound gratitude for the extraordinary common grace given to us when men and women laid their lives down for the sake of America's survival. And let us remember the past evils that we may not repeat them in the future.

And as Christians, let us make every day, as long as it is called today, a memorial day (Hebrews 3:13). Let us "take care lest [we] forget the Lord" (Deuteronomy 6:12).

Let us "remember Jesus Christ" (2 Timothy 2:8). By Jon Bloom-Staff Writer- Desiring God