



# Underrated Treasure

## 2 Corinthians 4:7-17

1. Have you ever had a *you are* moment with someone where they told you something about yourself? What did they say and how did that impact you?

Pastor Mark said this passage makes three statements about who we are as followers of Jesus. First, it says that we are **cracked pots**.

2. What came to your mind as Pastor Mark talked about the comparison between the ordinary clay jar and more valuable jars? Does that mean we are not worth much? Why? What is gained by using the ordinary to contain the valuable treasure?
3. Explain what it means that a cracked, damaged clay pot more easily shows the light of Jesus than a perfect pot of gold. Briefly share about a time that you were knocked around by life and others were able to see Jesus through you. What impact were you able to see in their lives?

The passage also says that followers of Jesus are **the walking dead**.

4. We are obviously still living, so what does it mean that we have died with Jesus? Practically speaking, what does it mean to *die* to things like our own dreams, our possessions, our sinful desires, etc.? How can living this new way of life bring the light and life of Jesus to others?

The third statement this passage makes about followers of Jesus says that we are **God's spokesperson**.

4. What connection do you see between this role as spokesperson and our role as *cracked pots* carrying the treasure of Jesus? As you look at verse 13, what is listed as the prerequisite for our sharing? What are some of the things that we tend to add to our list of prerequisites? Why do you think we feel the need to add these extra prerequisites? What impact does that usually have on our sharing?

As you examine your life, have you embraced who this passage says you are?

- Do you see yourself as the vessel that carries the treasure of Jesus everywhere you go?
- Are you allowing the light of Jesus to shine through the cracks and holes in your life?
- Are you living as one who has died to your past life and now lives fully for Jesus?
- Do you serve as God's spokesperson to those around you?

If you sense God speaking to you in one or more of these areas, ask Him to change you so that you more fully embrace who you are called to be in Jesus. Ask God to show you what steps you can take in the coming weeks to be part of the change He is working in you.

### **Going deeper...**

Romans 6 - discover what it means to be dead to sin and alive in Christ

Acts 2:1-41 - explore the circumstance and impact as Peter spoke on the Day of Pentecost

2 Corinthians 4:15-17 - what do these verses say about our motivation for embracing the roles we discussed as well as our future reward for doing so?