



12<sup>th</sup> October 2014  
**Allan Demond**  
2 Cor 4:1-17

From V 15, "All this is for your benefit": What is the 'All this' that the previous verses refer to? How do you link *Grace*, *Glory* and *Thanksgiving*?

We know what it's like to experience grace and family through the practice of our Christian faith. We are invited to serve a blinded world following Jesus' example. As a church, how do we do this effectively both as a body as well as individually?

Often times we feel inadequate or insignificant for the task, ie like clay pots. How does v 7 both encourage and challenge you as you contemplate involvement in acts of service both through and outside of the formal church?

Read Luke 9:23 and v 8-12 of the 2 Corinthians 4 passage again: How do you react to the Gospel call for us to be 'Cross bearers'? How do we suffer and engage with the tough issues of the world around us on behalf of God?

How does such sacrifice/suffering on our part bring glory to God?

As you embrace such sacrifice/suffering/vulnerability, how does the words of v 12 or any other Scripture passage reassure you and empower you?

Refer v 13-15: How are we encouraged to speak up from these verses? Note: we are encouraged to speak out against injustice and to share our testimony. What opportunities do we have to do this as part of NHBC and individually?

How are the themes of 'Service', 'Sacrifice & Suffering' and 'Speaking up' connected and reliant on the existence and future growth of our church?

*(Personal challenge)* How should we go about asking God how He wants us to respond to the NHBC planned giving program which is about *reaching more people for Jesus; extending God's grace to others; for people to experience loving community?* Are you prepared to commit to asking Him in particular over the next couple of weeks? (In this way we give glory to God)