

Valley Bible Church - Sermon Study Questions

**Study Aid for the Sermon from May 6, 2012
Paul's Foolish Boasting
2 Corinthians 12:8-9**

Observing the text

Read 2 Corinthians 12:8-9 carefully and make as many observations as possible. How do these verses fit into the flow of the passage?

Why did Paul, having been given the thorn by God, ask God to remove it?

What is the significance of Paul praying for its removal three times?

How did God answer Paul's repeated request?

Applying the sermon

What are the present afflictions that God has permitted to come into your life?

Do you believe that God will always minister grace to those who humbly ask Him to remove their afflictions from them?

Have you humbly asked God to remove your afflictions?

If you have humbly asked God to remove your afflictions, did He minister His grace by removing the affliction, or did he minister His grace by strengthening you to righteously persevere in the midst of those afflictions?

Have you, in the midst of whatever afflictions God has chosen to take from your life or has allowed to remain in your life, found God's grace sufficient? If you have, then take this moment to thank God. If you haven't, then take this moment to consider whether or not you have truly humbled yourself before Him.