

# GROUPS

## at 12STONE

### MESSAGE GROUPS | KEVIN MYERS, SPIRITUAL GRIT (WK 2) - AUGUST 11

#### LEADERSHIP THOUGHT:

Spiritual grit is a gift that God grows in you and it requires endurance as we grow in our dependence on God. God may give us more than we can handle on our own, but God will never give us more than we can handle if we choose to depend on him.

#### ICEBREAKER:

Share a time in your life where you had to practice endurance.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read 2 Corinthians 1:8-9 (NIV) aloud. You might have heard it being said “God doesn’t give us more than we can handle”. According to this passage, that seems to be far from true. Paul shares with the church of Corinth that they “were under great pressure, far beyond [their] ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself.”

**Q:** Share a time in your life where you were under immense pressure. How did you react to the pressure? Would you say that it forced you to grow in your dependence on God? Why or Why Not?

Read 2 Corinthians 12:1-7 (NIV). Paul is someone we look to as one of the heroes of the Christian faith, yet he takes time in this passage to focus on his weaknesses rather than his strengths. He openly shares about his circumstances that appeared to be more than he could handle, referring it to as a “thorn in [his] flesh”.

**Q:** What are some “thorns” that you have experienced in your life? In what ways have you learned to endure? How could you pursue more dependence on God through these circumstances?

Read 2 Corinthians 12:8-10 (NIV). In these verses, Paul pleads with the Lord to remove that which he cannot handle in his own strength, but God replies to Paul “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in your weakness.”

**Q:** Why do you think God allows circumstances of hardships or ongoing challenges to persist in our lives? How do you typically respond to God in these seasons – greater dependence or greater discouragement?

### CLOSE

Endurance is not something we possess but it is something that we can practice. God invites all of us to a life that cannot be lived in our own strength. So how do we endure worthwhile things in our lives —

We Endure by relying on Jesus.

We Endure for the Good of His Kingdom.

We Endure for the Good of others.

*Leaders: Ask your group to reflect this week, “How you I endure worthwhile things in my life by depending on Jesus?”  
Remind your group about Sunday Nights launching on August, 18th . Visit [12Stone.com/sundaynights](https://12Stone.com/sundaynights) to get started.*