



The Drone Series

A 52-Week Journey Through the Bible

Soaring through the pages of the Bible and embarking on an inspiring weekly journey from **Genesis to Revelation!** Dive into transformative insights that will uplift your spirit and deepen your understanding. Experience the power of scripture like never before!

We understand that spiritual growth can be a deeply personal journey, and we invite you to join us as we explore a different book of the Bible each week. It's a wonderful opportunity to reflect and find inspiration together. We encourage you to invite a friend to join us, whether in person or online, so we can support each other on this meaningful path.

Background Matters

The ministry of the New Covenant was given to Paul despite his past, highlighting God's grace and compassion towards him. This mercy sustained him through painful experiences and helped him overcome despair, allowing him to confidently state that he did not lose heart. Although he faced discouragement, Paul never gave up.

4:2. One source of discouragement for Paul was the troubling situation in Corinth. This was due to the actions of false apostles within the church and the complacency of the Christians. In response to sharp criticisms, Paul felt it was necessary to defend himself before those who should have trusted him wholeheartedly.

Already he had adroitly parried the attacks of his accusers several times in the letter (e.g., 1:17; 2:17; 3:1), but he felt forced to do so again (e.g., 6:3; 7:3; 10–13). Some accused him of using the gospel deceitfully to serve his own ends (**deception** translates the Gr. *panourgia*, “trickery, cunning”; in 11:3 this word is used of Satan).



Perhaps Paul had the collection in mind (12:16–18; cf. 2:17). In response he pointed to the openness (**we have renounced secret and shameful ways ... setting forth the truth plainly**) and boldness (cf. 3:12) which characterized his proclamation of the gospel. Unlike his opponents, he did not **distort** (“falsify”) **the Word of God**. Thus he could **commend** himself (cf. 6:4) before others and **God** (conscience in 1:12; 5:11).

4:3–4. Many people, especially Jews (3:14–15), did not accept the gospel. For them, it was veiled. However, Paul refused to alter the message to make it more appealing, as his opponents had done (11:4). The gospel was rejected by those who were unable and unwilling to embrace it (1 Cor. 1:18; 2:14). Their disbelief was supported by Satan, the god of this Age (cf. Eph. 2:2), who, although defeated by Christ (Heb. 2:14), still maintains his influence over the present world (1 Peter 5:8; 1 John 5:19). His act of blinding people's minds makes it impossible for them to perceive the light of the gospel.

The gospel, then, is not obscure. In fact, it points to **Christ** who, as **the image of God** (Col. 1:15), revealed God the Father by His words and actions (cf. John 1:18; 14:9).

4:5. Christ was the Focus of Paul's message and the Object of his concern. Contrary to what Paul's accusers suggested (v. 2), he labored to advance the cause of Christ (**for Jesus' sake**) and not his own interests. **Jesus** was the crucified **Christ** and the resurrected **Lord**. Since Paul served Christ, he also served the church, Christ's body (Eph. 1:22–23). While serving the Corinthians, however unworthy they were, Paul was serving his Lord (cf. Matt. 25:40).¹

In this Week's Drone Series, *We will focus on the second letter to the Corinthians. In this passage, we will dive into a remarkable yet often overlooked treasure. We will explore the profound truths that can transform our understanding and appreciation of life's challenges. Join us as we unravel the wisdom found in 2 Corinthians 4:1–18 and discover the extraordinary power that lies within. This journey promises to illuminate our paths and renew our spirits!*

UNVEILING THE UNSEEN:

The Most Remarkable Yet Underrated Treasure!

2 Corinthians 4:1–18

Topics:

Death, Deceit, Endurance, Gospel, Knowledge, Ministry, Power, Renewal, Satan

¹ David K. Lowery, “2 Corinthians,” in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 562–563.



Study Guide 33 *This study guide presents daily assignments that are specifically crafted to enhance your **growth in the Word**. Embrace each moment to meditate and reflect, and watch as your spiritual maturity flourishes through your dedicated efforts.*

Open It, Mondays. Open your heart and mind to the truth of the Word.

1. What reasons typically lead to your feelings of discouragement?

Explore It, Tuesdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

2. *Why did Paul tell the Corinthians not to lose heart? (4:1)

3. What did Paul believe would result from telling the plain truth? (4:2)

4. Why did Paul's opponents not understand his ministry? (4:3–4)

5. Who is the god of this age? (4:4)

6. What has the god of this age done? (4:4)

7. Whom did Paul preach? Why? (4:5–6)



8. What kind of jars contained Paul's treasure? (4:7)

Explore It, Wednesdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

9. *How did Paul contrast his own weakness with God's power? (4:8–9)

10. What did Paul call his sufferings? (4:10)

11. What value did Paul see in his sufferings? (4:10–12)

12. What motivated Paul to preach the gospel in spite of hardship? (4:13–14)

13. *How did Paul encourage the Corinthians to carry on despite difficulty? (4:16–18)

14. How would you define faith?

15. What elements of the Christian faith that we cannot see are central to our life with Christ?

Get It Thursdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.



16. What does it mean for us to renew our faith?

17. In what ways do some religious people distort the Word of God?

18. When have you been discouraged or perplexed in your Christian life?

19. *What makes it difficult for us to fix our attention and hope on God?

20. *How can God help us through difficult times?

21. When have you experienced inner peace despite challenging circumstances?

Drive it Home, Fridays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

22. *What would you like to remember the next time you feel discouraged?

23. How can you encourage another Christian who feels confused or overwhelmed by life's challenges?

Experiencing the Power of Scripture Like Never Before! 2025

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