

Lesson Sixteen:

Paul's Thorn in the Flesh: II Corinthians 12:7-10

Can you think of an area in which you feel weak?

Lesson Questions:

1. What are reasons for troubles in our lives? Read I Peter 1:6,7 (P.647-648) and John 9:1-3 (P.286).
2. Through our human weakness, God can display His divine power. Not only do we accept and acknowledge our weaknesses but what do we also do?

Discussion Questions:

1. What are your thorns in the flesh?
2. Could God remove these thorns if He wanted to?
3. What may be His reasons for not removing them? Read Romans 8:28, I Corinthians 15:10, and James 1:2-4.
4. What is your attitude now about your thorn in the flesh?

When we recognize that we are not perfect, but actually weak and needy, we become more open and caring toward others who are in need. In the next lesson, we learn that Christians help others who are disadvantaged.

PSALM 13

HOW LONG, O LORD?

WILL YOU FORGET ME FOREVER?

HOW LONG WILL YOU HIDE YOUR FACE FROM ME?

HOW LONG MUST I WRESTLE WITH MY THOUGHTS AND EVERY
DAY

HAVE SORROW IN MY HEART?

HOW LONG WILL MY ENEMY TRIUMPH OVER ME?

LOOK ON ME AND ANSWER, O LORD MY GOD.

GIVE LIGHT TO MY EYES, OR I WILL SLEEP IN DEATH;

MY ENEMY WILL SAY, "I HAVE OVERCOME HIM," AND MY FOES
WILL REJOICE WHEN I FALL.

BUT I TRUST IN YOUR UNFAILING LOVE;

MY HEART REJOICES IN YOUR SALVATION.

I WILL SING TO THE LORD, FOR HE HAS BEEN GOOD TO ME.