



LESSON 12: Let's have a parade! Esther 6:1-14

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Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.

Why does Paul say the "thorn" in his flesh was given to him?

When Paul asked God to remove this thorn from him, what was the response? What was Paul's response to that?

How could Paul be content in hardships and suffering? (Verse 10)

Is there a "thorn" that you are dealing with or have dealt with?

What do you need to let go of (expectations, control, past hurts, etc.), to be able to say that you know how to be content in all circumstances?

Read Proverbs 28:25. What does this proverb tell us a greedy man does?

How is this contrasted?

Read 1 Corinthians 5:9-13. Paul makes a distinction here between those who are outsiders and those who are inside. What are they "outside" or "inside" of?

Why does the same behavior warrant different treatment for an "outsider" vs an "insider"? (Verse 13)

Read Ephesians 4:17-24. According to this passage, why is the "insider" to live differently from the "outsider"?

How are we to be renewed?

As you spend time with God today, consider how you are to walk when you are a part of Christ. What should your goal be, temporal, material things or eternal things? What does that look like in your life? Is there something that you have been longing for to the point of idolatry, and your greed has planted a bitter root in your heart? Why can we take comfort and be content in all circumstances as Paul was? Ask God to help you to understand what you have been forgiven of and how abundantly blessed you are simply to have life everlasting with Christ. Ask Him how your life should reflect the gratitude you should feel towards your Savior, and ask Him to help

you to reflect that gratitude today, and ask Him to help you not to let the circumstances of your day steal any joy that you have in that precious promise of salvation.