

MESSAGE NOTES:



Whiteboard Wisdom, Part 5
The Role of Trouble

Bevan Unrau
April 24, 2016

2 Corinthians 4:8-9 *We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.*

Today's Music

Holding Nothing Back	Martin Smith, Tim Hughes
Relentless	Joel Houston, Matt Crocker
Here for You	Tim Wanstall, Matt Redman, Matt Maher, Jesse Reeves
You'll Come	Brooke Ligertwood
Running	Matt Crocker, Scott Ligertwood

Seabreeze CCLI#105966
Unless otherwise stated, verses are quoted from the
New International Version of the Bible by permission of Zondervan Publishers.

My Next Step today is to...

identify which side is causing trouble.
identify what God's purpose might be.
pray with someone.

Growth Group Homework – April 24, 2016

Whiteboard Wisdom: The Role of Trouble

This week Bevan explained how God uses trouble to help us come to faith in Christ and also to grow our faith. Our preference is to create cushions of protection, but God will keep the pressure on so we learn to trust in Him and not in ourselves.

Warm-Up

1. If you were to poll people on the street, what do you think their goals in life would be?

2. What do you think they would say if you asked them what the purpose of trouble is?

Talk it Over

3. What part of the message stood out to you and why?

4. Often, we create safety cushions or margins between ourselves and trouble. What are some of the cushions we put in place?

What are some of the ways these cushions could interfere with faith?

5. Read 2 Corinthians 1:8-10 and 1 Peter 1:6-7. What are some of the purposes behind the trouble we face, according to these verses?

What do you think our role is if we are going to experience the benefits of trouble? What might be some of the challenges?

6. Bevan explained how we need the help of other people in the church when trouble comes. Can you think of a time when you faced trouble on your own? What happened?

How has being part of a church helped you in times of trouble?

Bring it Home

7. Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-9. This passage identifies four types of trouble God uses to grow our faith.

Pressure will expose your sin.

Perplexity will drive God's truth into your heart.

Persecution will move Jesus toward the center of your heart.

Calamity will expose your pride.

Which of these four types of trouble have you experienced most recently?
What do you think God is trying to show you and what is one action step you can take?

Memorize: 2 Corinthians 4:18

Additional Reading: Mark 4:35-41, Romans 5:1-5