

# Great Endurance

*Matthew 5:10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
11 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

**INTRODUCTION:** Start by asking someone to open in prayer and then ask your group to reflect on Rod's message from Sunday;

- Ask someone to give a summary
- What stood out to you?
- Did anything challenge you?
- Did you decide to do anything?

READ 2 Corinthians 6:3-13 and share any revelations or insights.

V3

Are there any areas of hypocrisy that others may see in you? If they are not obvious, ask God to reveal them to you.

In what ways does your life advertise the gospel of Christ?

What disciplines have you put in place, that help you endure?

Is there anything in your life that you feel like giving up on, that is too hard to do on your own or too hard to keep enduring?

Perhaps there are others you know who are in tough times and need help to endure. What can you use from Paul's example to encourage others?

What takes you into a place of losing your patience, kindness, integrity or understanding? Do you have a recent example?

If we know we have the weapons we need, why is it that often we don't use them?

How can we better utilise what we know we have?

In a world that bombards us with pleasing ourselves, indulging ourselves, giving ourselves what we deserve, in what ways can we change our focus to pleasing only God?

V11-13

If you were to ask God to "open wide your heart" in which circumstances do you most need that to occur? What would that look like?

**SPEND SOME TIME PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER?**