



DEALING WITH THE THORNS OF LIFE  
2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Introduction. We all deal with “thorns” in life...those nagging afflictions or irritations which God never seems to remove, no matter how often we pray.

In these few verses, Paul reveals 4 purposes of God in his life through the “thorn in the flesh” he suffered from.

GOD’S PURPOSES THROUGH OUR THORNS...

1. TO KEEP US HUMBLE 7  
“To keep me from being conceited...there was given me a thorn in my flesh” (v.7)

2. TO KEEP US IN PRAYER 8  
“Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me.” (v.8)

3. TO KEEP US UNDER GOD’S GRACE 9  
“But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness”( v.9)

4. TO KEEP US STRONG IN CHRIST, NOT IN OURSELVES. 10  
“For when I am weak, then I am strong”

Conclusion. For daily need God gives daily grace; for sudden need, sudden grace; for overwhelming need, overwhelming grace.

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