2 Corinthians 12:1-10

What do you treasure?

* Such a treasure: visions of grandeur, 1-4
	+ Who would you accept?
		- I will go on boasting, 1
		- You gain nothing by pointing to yourself
	+ Something special
		- I know a man in Christ, 2
		- Caught up to the 3rd Heaven, paradise, 2-3
		- It was unspeakably good, 4
		- Is this what you *need*?
* Recognition of treasure: sell everything. 5-8
	+ Where does your strength lie?
		- I will not boast, except of my weaknesses, 5
			* Good and true things may not be ultimate things. To whom does it point? 5-6
		- Don’t think too much of a person, 6b
	+ Trials of life
		- To keep me from becoming conceited, 7
		- A thorn (spike) in the flesh
		- Was given: Divine agency. Sovereignty.
		- Satan is at work too. A demonic deputy. (Job)
		- To harass (buffet, beat, strike in the face)
		- Three times I pleaded with the Lord, 8
	+ Matthew 13:44. “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”
* Real treasure: Christ Alone. 9-10
	+ Enough
		- Christ’s Grace is sufficient for you, 9
		- Christ’s Power is made perfect in weakness
		- I will boast of my weaknesses
		- I am content with weaknesses, 10
		- When I am weak [my resources], I am strong [Christ’s resources]
	+ Implications
		- Status: in Christ
		- Success: by Christ
		- Destiny: with Christ
		- Possession: is Christ

Discussion Questions:

* List the top 3 things that our culture values. List the top three things that the American church values. List the top 3 things that you value.
* How might God, in His love, be weakening you to your own resources? Where are you tempted to rely on yourself rather than Christ?
* Why do you struggle with discontentment? What does that reveal to you about your treasure?
* What would it look like for you to “sell all” and “buy the field” (Mt 13:44-46)? In terms of your relationships? In terms of your health? In terms of your resources?