



TITLE | **Not In Vain**
SERIES | **Beyond Our Strength**
TEXT | **2 Corinthians 6:1-10**
BY | **Bob Kerrey**
DATE | **January 15, 2022**

SERMON NOTES

2 Corinthians 6:1 Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. **2** For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. **3** We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, **4** but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, **5** beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; **6** by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; **7** by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; **8** through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; **9** as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; **10** as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything. *ESV*

BIG IDEA:

Text questions during the sermon: 623-850-8809

2 Corinthians 6:3 We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, **4** but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way. . . . *ESV*

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read 2 Corinthians 6:1. How is it possible for a believer to “receive the grace of God in vain”?

Tuesday:

Read 2 Corinthians 6:2. How does this quote from Isaiah 49:8 relate to what Paul is saying?

Wednesday:

Read 2 Corinthians 6:3-10. In what ways is it possible for us to put an obstacle in someone’s way? (See also Acts 15:19 and 1 Corinthians 9:12.)

Thursday:

In 2 Corinthians 6:4, Paul tells us we are to commend ourselves as servants of God? How can we do that?

Friday:

In light of 2 Corinthians 6:1-10, prayerfully ask the Lord show you the answers to these questions: Am I receiving the grace of God in vain? Am I working together with others in my church to bring life to our community? Am I living more like a servant or an obstacle?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, thank you for the grace I have received. Help me not respond to it in vain. Show me the ways I may be living like an obstacle. And help me to live as your servant instead, bringing your life to others, come what may. Amen.