**SCC SMALL GROUPS**

**CAN YOU SAY “DETERMINATION?"**

**2 Corinthians 4:1-18 • Dr. Scott E. Koenigsaecker**

**Getting Started:**

1. Do you feel more like a paper cup or a crystal goblet this week?

\* Why?

2. When you are discouraged, what thought, song or verse do find encouraging?

**Searching the Scriptures:**

A. How Paul *received* his ministry (vs. 1,6) makes a difference in how he *conducts* that

ministry (vs. 2-5): What is the difference?

B. What do you learn from Paul's experience (vs.1-6) about methods for sharing our

faith?

\* About the content of that faith?

\* The lack of response to the gospel?

C. From verses 7-11, what do you learn about the nature of ministry and the minister?

\* How does Paul's struggle show forth God's power (v.7) and Jesus' life (v.11)?

D. What does **"*death at work"*** and ***"life at work"* (v.12)** mean to you?

\* Which is at work in your life? Why?

E. From verses 13-18, what truths keep Paul going in-spite of his hardships?

\* Why does God allow Paul to go through them?

**Application of the Scriptures:**

1. How well does verse 5 serve as a description of your ministry/mission to others?

\* Why is being a servant to others essential for sharing the gospel?

\* What is one way you could be more of a servant to someone you are concerned about now?

2. How do verses 7-12 and 16-18 help you cope with your present difficulties and anxieties? Or don't they?

3. How does this section challenge common ideas of what makes a person a "success" or "failure"?