**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"?