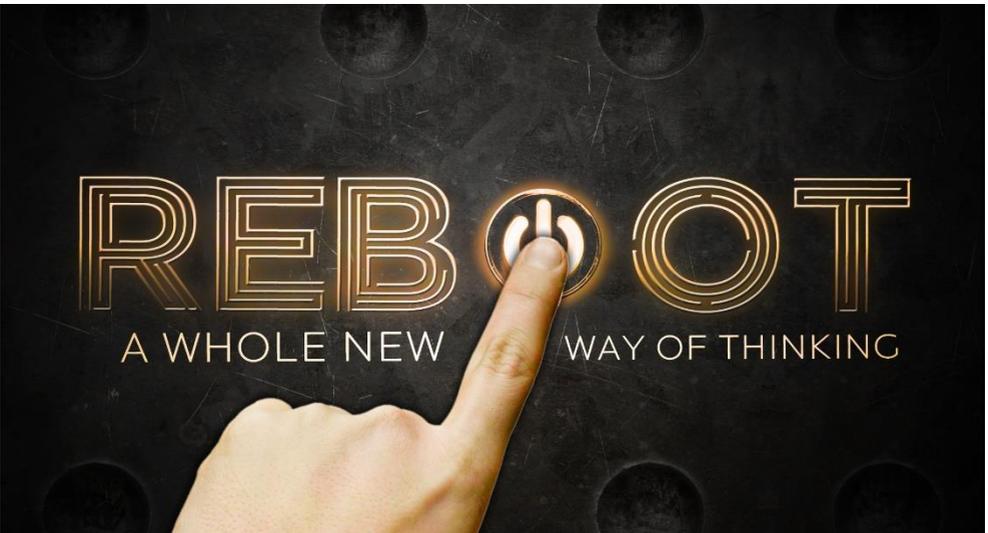


Discovery Service Order and Message Outline



WELCOME TO CEC ..... Pastor Phill and Sara  
WORSHIP VIDEO..... With me in the rising sun (Goodness)  
PRAYER  
UPDATES ..... Pastor Phill and Sara  
WORSHIP VIDEO..... Christ our hope in life and death  
BIBLE READING ..... 2 Corinthians 4:1-18  
MESSAGE ..... Taught by Pastor Phill  
WORSHIP VIDEO..... In Christ alone



**Reboot #9**  
**How to overcome discouragement**  
**2 Corinthians 4:1-18**

*“Moses told the people what the Lord had said, but they wouldn’t listen anymore. They had become too discouraged by the increasing burden of their slavery.”*  
Exodus 6:9 NLT

*“Why am I so discouraged? Why so sad? I will put my hope in God!”*  
Psalm 42:5 NLT

*“I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers. I have laboured and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.”* 2 Corinthians 11:23-28 NIV

**How to defeat discouragement:**

**1. Never forget how much God \_\_\_\_\_ me.**

*“God in his mercy has given us this work to do, and so we do not become discouraged.”* 2 Corinthians 4:1 TEV

**2. Never fake it. Be \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“We do not try to trick anyone, and we do not distort the word of God. We teach the truth plainly, showing everyone who we are. Then they can know in their hearts what kind of people we are in God’s sight.”* 2 Corinthians 4:2 NLT/NCV

**3. Remember that it’s not about \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Our message is NOT about ourselves. It is about Jesus Christ as the Lord. We are your servants for his sake.”* 2 Corinthians 4:5 GW



#### **4. Accept my \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“We are like clay jars in which God’s treasure is stored. The real power comes from God and not from us.” 2 Corinthians 4:7 CEV*

#### **5. Use my \_\_\_\_\_ to help others.**

*“We often suffer, but we are never crushed. Even when we don’t know what to do, we never give up. In times of trouble, God is with us, and when we are knocked down, we get up again.” 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 CEV*

*“That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day.” 2 Corinthians 4:15 NLT*

#### **6. Take time for \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“These sufferings of ours are for your benefit. And the more of you who are won to Christ, the more there are to thank Him for his great kindness, and the more the Lord is glorified.” 2 Corinthians 4:16 LB*

#### **7. Stay focused on \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Our present troubles are quite small and won’t last very long. Yet they produce for us an immeasurably great glory that will last forever! So, we don’t look at the troubles we can see right now; rather, we look forward to what we have not yet seen. For the troubles we see will soon be over, but the joys to come will last forever!” 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 NLT*

*“Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end. He did not give up because of the cross! On the contrary, because of the joy that was waiting for him, he thought nothing of the disgrace of dying on the cross, and he is now seated at the right side of God’s throne.” Hebrews 12:2 TEV*

*“Let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t get discouraged and give up.” Galatians 6:9 LB*





## SMALL GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION

1. Read Exodus 8:9 and Psalm 42:5. In Exodus 8:9, why wouldn't the people listen to Moses anymore? What was David's antidote to discouragement in Psalm 42:5?
  2. Read 2 Corinthians 11:23-28. What kinds of discouragement did Paul face in these verses? According to 2 Corinthians 4:1, why did Paul say he and the disciples, *"do not become discouraged and never give up!"*?
  3. Read 2 Corinthians 4:8-9. Discuss why Paul talks about struggle this way, and why he says *"when we are knocked down, we get up again."*
  4. In 2 Corinthians 4:15, Paul explains the benefit of our sufferings. How can you win people to Christ with the things you have suffered in your life? Discuss why this is a powerful ministry tool.
  5. Read 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 and talk about how you face the troubles in your life. What difference do you see when you change your perspective from life here and now to life in eternity with Christ?
  6. In Hebrews 12:2, Paul talks about how Jesus was able to withstand the suffering on the cross. How great is the joy of heaven if he was able to withstand such misery? What can you do to approach each day with this perspective?
- Galatians 6:9 (LB) tells us to, *"not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up!"* This week, read this verse every morning and apply it each time you encounter a disappointment or discouraging thought.

Watch us on



Watch and listen to the message again, or an archived message by going to [www.youtube.com/cowplainchurch](http://www.youtube.com/cowplainchurch).

