

# Pastor Dave Rohde

**For Sunday, March 8th**  
***"Under Pressure"***

## **Psalm 122 – NIV**

- <sup>1</sup> I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."  
<sup>2</sup> Our feet are standing  
in your gates, Jerusalem.  
<sup>3</sup> Jerusalem is built like a city  
that is closely compacted together.  
<sup>4</sup> That is where the tribes go up—  
the tribes of the Lord—  
to praise the name of the Lord  
according to the statute given to Israel.  
<sup>5</sup> There stand the thrones for judgment,  
the thrones of the house of David.  
<sup>6</sup> Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
"May those who love you be secure.  
<sup>7</sup> May there be peace within your walls  
and security within your citadels."  
<sup>8</sup> For the sake of my family and friends,  
I will say, "Peace be within you."  
<sup>9</sup> For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,  
I will seek your prosperity.

## **2 Corinthians 4:7-18 – NIV**

<sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. <sup>8</sup> We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. <sup>10</sup> We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. <sup>11</sup> For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. <sup>12</sup> So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.

<sup>13</sup> It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak, <sup>14</sup> because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. <sup>15</sup> All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup> So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

**Takeaway:** We are shaped as followers of Jesus when we choose intentional discomfort over convenience and self-preservation.

**Questions:**

1. What is a "simple comfort" you enjoy at the end of a long day or week?
2. Do you think of yourself as a person who avoids pressure or someone who leans into it? Why?
3. Reflect on the journey described in Psalm 122. How do you think the journey itself might have shaped their attitude about worship? How does convenience help or hinder our attitude toward celebrating in worship together?
4. In 2 Corinthians 4:7, Paul says we carry God's treasure in "jars of clay." How does recognizing our weakness and fragility change the way we think about discomfort or hardship in the Christian life?
5. Reflect on 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. What helps you to keep an eternal perspective in times you feel overwhelmed or when what's happening in the world feels extremely heavy?

**Sermon:** <https://podcast.wpcwestlake.org/services/mp3/sermon20260308.mp3>

**Service Video:** <https://youtu.be/RG9PhFQMTw4>

**Alternate Service Video:** <https://wpcwestlake.livecontrol.tv/ebbf40f2>