

# MESSAGE NOTES | APRIL 15 2018



Roger Ellis | Lead Pastor  
**When God says, "No."**  
2 Corinthians 12:7-10

***Hope is the confident expectation of a positive outcome despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary.***

Why would God say, "No"?

1. My pain (my weakness) \_\_\_\_\_ (7-8).
2. My pain is an \_\_\_\_\_ (7).
3. My pain invites me to embrace \_\_\_\_\_ (9).
4. My pain provides opportunity \_\_\_\_\_ (9-10).
5. My pain is actually to be embraced, \_\_\_\_\_ (9-10).

THE  
**ONE THING:**

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**Miss something?** Completed sermon notes are available online. Binders to organize your sermon notes are available at the upstairs Welcome Desk.

## NEXT STEPS

- Memorize 2 Corinthians 12:9-10
- Visit the booth in the back today
- Go to [www.chronic-joy.org](http://www.chronic-joy.org) for more information
- Pray for people with chronic illness

## NOTES FOR PERSONAL & SMALL GROUP STUDY

### 1 KEEPING IT REAL

Describe a trial or struggle that was too big for you to handle on your own.

### 2 LOOK AT THE BOOK

Paul opens his discussion about a thorn in the flesh with, "Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations..." (2 Corinthians 12:7). Discuss whether the surpassing greatness of the revelations was unique to Paul's experience or has general application among believers.

### 3

In Psalm 31:9-13, David speaks of distress, grief, sorrow, a body wasting away, being a reproach and an object of dread, forgotten as a dead man. Read Psalm 31 and discuss David's confession amidst his struggles.

### 4 TAKING IT FURTHER

In whatever trials or struggles you are facing at the moment, confess Jesus as your refuge, strength and source of hope over those trials and struggles.

## WORSHIP LYRICS

If you'd like to spend more time with the lyrics from any of the songs this morning, please click on the song title below to continue worshipping.

[Alive in You](#)

[It is Well](#)

[Never Once](#)

[Forever Reign](#)

[Open Up Our Eyes](#)