

**New Life Community Church Lifeline Notes**  
**2 Corinthians Series: “When Times Get Tough”**  
**The Tensions of the True Servant of God**  
**(2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10)**

**SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20- 6:10**

**Paul's Defense of Genuine New Testament Ministry (2:14-7:3)**

- I. The Genuine Christian has an Eternal Perspective**
- II. The Genuine Christian has an Eternal Purpose**
- III. The Genuine Christian is a New Creation**
- IV. The Genuine Christian is An Ambassador for Christ**

**1. Pursuit of Personal Holiness (6:4f)**

**2. Exhibits Steadfast Endurance in Tough Times (6:4b-5)**

**I. True Servants of God Demonstrate \_\_\_\_\_**

**9 Examples of \_\_\_\_\_ (6:4-5)**

**A. Sufferings \_\_\_\_\_ the will of \_\_\_\_\_**

**1. in afflictions**

**2. in hardships**

**3. in distresses**

**B. Sufferings \_\_\_\_\_ the will of \_\_\_\_\_**

**4. in beatings**

**5. in imprisonments**

6. in tumults

C. Sufferings \_\_\_\_\_ will

7. Labors

8. Sleeplessness

9. Hunger

II. True Servants of God Demonstrate \_\_\_\_\_

9 Examples of \_\_\_\_\_ (6:6-7)

A. The Servant's \_\_\_\_\_

1. Purity

2. Knowledge

3. Patience

4. Kindness

B. The Servant's \_\_\_\_\_

5. In the Holy Spirit

6. In genuine love

7. In the word of truth

8. In the power of God

9. by the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left (See Ephesians 6:16-17)

by the instrumentality of righteousness  
(offense)-

by the instrumentality of righteousness  
(defense)-

### III. True Servants of God \_\_\_\_\_ In Tension (6:8-10)

9 Examples of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_  
God.

1. by glory and dishonor  
(2 Cor 5:9; 12:16)

2. by evil report and good report

3. *regarded* as deceivers and yet true;  
(Matthew 27:62-63)

4. as unknown yet well-known  
(12:11; 1 Cor 2:14-15; Acts 19:13-16)

5. as dying yet behold, we live;  
(Acts 23:12; 1 Cor 15:31; 2 Cor 1:-10)

6. as punished yet not put to death,  
(Luke 23:16, 22; Phil 1:14-26; 2 Tim 4:6-8)

7. as sorrowful yet always rejoicing  
(Isaiah 53:3; 2 Cor 1:8-10; 1 Thess 5:16)

8. as poor yet making many rich  
(2 Cor 8:9-10; 1 Cor 1:26-31)

9. as having nothing yet possessing all things  
(Acts 20:32; Matthew 25:34; 19:29; 1 Cor 3:21-23;  
6:2; Matt 5:5; Romans 8:32)

#### **IV. Application:**

**How do servants of God commend themselves as being true?**

How are you able to steadfastly endure the tensions between how you are perceived by the naturally minded and the mind of God?