

Bible Study:

Treasure in clay jars

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Welcome and Introduction

ONE LORD,
FAITH,
BAPTISM,
GOD
AND FATHER OF
WHO IS ABOVE
AND THROUGHOUT
AND IN US
ALL

**Confident
Faith**

**Gospel in
Action**



Icebreaker

Taxi!

**notice one word,
image, or phrase
that strikes you and
speaks to your
ministry context**



¹ Since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. ³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷ But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸ We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹ For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹² So death is at work in us, but life in you.

**Sit with the word,
image, or phrase
that strikes you and
speaks to your
ministry context.**

(30 seconds)



**Which word, phrase,
or image stood out?**

**How does it speak
to the reality of your
ministry?**



Cluster Discussion



- How does “**treasure in clay jars**” resonate with your ministries?
- Are there fragile or hidden aspects of your chaplaincy that reveal God’s power?
- Which challenges in your chaplaincy seem most intractable, and where have you seen hope or transformation?
- How could your chaplaincy act with confidence, even when resources or impact feel limited?
- How do you see the **theme: Confident Faith, Gospel in Action** reflected in everyday ministry in your chaplaincy?



Closing Litany and Prayer

For the Church in all its fragility and hope,

We carry treasure in jars of clay. The power belongs to God.

For ordained and lay leaders, and all who bear responsibility
across small and dispersed communities,

We carry treasure in jars of clay. The power belongs to God.

For congregations that feel hidden, unsupported, under pressure,

We carry treasure in jars of clay. The power belongs to God.

For faithful ministry, often unseen but sustaining life,

We carry treasure in jars of clay. The power belongs to God.

For courage, patience, and hope in the work God has called us
to,

We carry treasure in jars of clay. The power belongs to God.

God of mercy and light,
hold our fragility and sustain our perseverance.
Help us to see your treasure in the jars we carry,
and empower us to faithful action
in the places you have called us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

