

FOCUS: During our 8-week **Made for Mondays** series, we will discover what it looks like to go from simply working as an employee, student, stay-at-home mom, retiree (or even when unemployed) to fulfilling God's unique mission for each of us. This week, we reflect on how to handle the challenges (thorns) that come with our work.

1. When it comes to the work you do, what joys and challenges does God allow it to bring to you?
2. Read through three times slowly the key passage [2 Cor. 12:7-10](#). What observations, questions and conclusions does it bring to mind? What word(s) or phrase (s) stands out?
3. How does the key passage [2 Cor. 12:7-10](#) relate to these other passages [Zech 4:6](#), [Rom 8:26](#), [2 Cor 13:4](#), [Philp. 4:13](#), [Heb. 4:15](#)? How does this help you related to Jesus' journey, including His crown of thorns?
4. Guest speaker Laurie Short stated, *"Thorns often become a gift. Sometimes our thorns lead us to a bigger story that involves more people who are going to be touched. And our thorns help us discover God's sufficient grace."* In what ways have you experienced this in your life?
5. Identify a weakness, insult, hardship, persecution, or difficulty that is a thorn associated with the work you do. How could you delight in it with the Lord, so that you could experience His gracious perspective and power?

BONUS CONTENT

- a. Pray for women to bring the kingdom of God into all sectors of life.
- b. Complete this survey [[Bit.ly/made4mondays](https://bit.ly/made4mondays)] to help you and us understand your view of work.
- c. View [Redeeming Work](#) on our free RightNow Media platform. It provides six weeks of guided conversations, interviews, and documentaries reflecting examples of Christians integrating their faith and work. wearepcc.com/resources/rightnow-media/