



Introduction:

- Pain is the universal language. We've all experienced it from time to time. Pastor, author and theologian John MacArthur said it well:

'Frankly, the deepest pain you'll ever know doesn't have to do with our physical body and it doesn't have to do with our material or economic life patterns. The greatest pain we will ever know is relational. It is the potential of people to devastate us, to destroy us, to abuse us.'

- Many great and godly people from Scripture were well acquainted with relational pain, but perhaps none more than the Apostle Paul. From his experience, maybe you and I can learn a few lessons.

1. Thorns Are Meant to _____.

So to keep me from becoming conceited...a thorn was given me in the flesh (II Corinthians 12:7).

2. Thorns Are Meant to _____.

Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me (v. 8).

3. Thorns Are Meant to Showcase _____.

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (v. 9).

Conclusion:

Got Pain?

Got _____!