

Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Chapters 1 through 6

Study Questions*

- What pressures is Paul facing that would cause him to despair even of life? (2 Cor 1:5-10, 7:5-7)
- How would I answer this question: “Why bother praying since God knows what’s going to happen anyway?”
- In what does Paul boast? (1:12) What is the basis for his integrity?
- Of what may Paul have been accused? (1:15-17)
- How does Paul account for his change of plans? (1:23 – 2:2)
- What must Paul’s grievous letter have been about? (2:3-9, 7:8-12)
- Until Titus returns with “good news” (7:6-13), Paul has “no peace of mind” (2:13) – what does that say about Paul’s concern for the church in Corinth?
- Preachers often carried letters of recommendation but Paul did not. Why did he not need one? (3:1-6)
- How does Paul contrast the old and new covenants? (3:7-11)
- What is the veil that covers hearts? (3:12-18)
- Recall how Paul received his call. (Acts 9:1-18; 2 Cor 4:1&6) How does that affect the way he conducts his ministry? (2 Cor 4:2-5)
- How does the truth keep Paul going? (4:16-18)
- Is Paul motivated more by the desire to be with Christ or by fear of judgment? (5:6-10) What motivates me?
- What does Paul mean by what he says about Christ and our response to him? (5:15-17)
- What does God do through Christ? (5:18) Through us? (5:20) For us? (5:17-18)
- In 6:3-10, how does Paul authenticate his ministry?
- What is Paul asking the Corinthians (and us) to do in 6:11-13?
- How is unequal yoking an apt metaphor in the context of 6:14-16?
- What is necessary if we want to have God as our Father? (6:16-18)

* Questions courtesy of *Serendipity Bible for Groups* (NIV), fourth ed., 1998, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing)