

2 Corinthians: Lesson Workbook

2 Corinthians 5-8

2 Corinthians 5

1. In your view, what do verses 1-5 really mean?

2. What attitude does this coming hope inspire in Paul, according to verse 6?

3. According to verse 14, some thought Paul and his ministry companions were crazy, but what does he argue compels and motivates him?

4. Verse 17 is a key verse in this chapter — what do you think it means for Paul?

5. What else sticks out to you, if anything, about this chapter?

2 Corinthians 6

1. Why do you think Paul shares all the troubles he has faced with the Corinthians? How might what follows be a hint to his motivation?

2. What does Paul warn the Corinthians of in the second half of this chapter?

3. Why do you think we are wise to not share the deepest parts of our lives with people who don't share our values?

4. How does what Paul says in chapter 6 fit with what he says in chapter 5?

5. What else sticks out to you, if anything, about this chapter?

2 Corinthians 7

1. Overall, what do you think is Paul's tone in this text?

2. What is his chief point he's trying to drive home in this chapter?

3. What does this tell us about how some in Corinth likely viewed Paul?

4. What else sticks out to you, if anything, about this chapter?

2 Corinthians 8

1. In verse 7, Paul says that the Corinthians "excel in everything" and urges them to excel in their giving, too. Based on what we know about his correction in the first letter and in this letter, what do you make of this verse?

2. In verse 8 Paul comes right out and says he's testing them against others. Does this rub you the wrong way at all?

3. Verse 9 is a beautiful summary of the Gospel...restate it in your own words.

4. What else sticks out to you, if anything, about this chapter?

Mark 2:22 and Colossians 3:3-4

1. What happens, according to Jesus in Mark 2, when you try to wedge something new into something old?

2. What does it take to contain that which is new?

3. When Paul writes to the Colossians about who we are in Christ, he says that we are hidden with Christ, but what precedes this?

4. What do you think it means to be "in" Christ?

John 15:5-8

1. What image comes to mind as we read this?

2. Why does pruning have to happen?

3. What are some things you need pruned from your life right now? What old stuff needs to be cut off to make room for new growth?

Homework

- 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Take time to really reflect on what needs to be pruned from your life to help promote your growth in becoming more like Christ.