

# SECOND CORINTHIANS

Chapters 1 - 7	Chapters 8 - 9	Chapters 10 - 13
<b>Paul's Gospel Ministry</b> Comfort in affliction (1:1-11) Paul's change of plans (1:12-2:4) Forgiving the sinner (2:5-11) The aroma of Christ (2:12-3:18) Treasure in jars of clay (4:1-5:10) Ambassadors of Christ (5:11-6:18) Gospel repentance (7:1-16)	<b>Gospel Generosity</b> Macedonian example (8:1-8) Jesus' example (8:9-12) It's fair! (8:13-15) Titus (8:16-9:5) Give cheerfully (9:6-9) Give trusting (9:10-15)	<b>Paul, the Gospel Apostle</b> Paul defends his ministry (10:1-18) Paul exposes false apostles (11:1-15) Paul's suffering (11:16-29) Paul's weaknesses (11:30-12:10) Paul's love for them (12:11-21) Final warnings (13:1-14)



## Second Corinthians

Sunday, January 10, 2016

*Second Corinthians is the second of two letters written by Paul to the church at Corinth, inspired and preserved by God for the instruction of His Church throughout the ages. In the letter, Paul defends his ministry by pointing the Corinthians to the COUNTER-INTUITIVE, COUNTER-CULTURAL Gospel Way.*

**1. The Gospel is the Way of \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.**

Our natural bent is to live for and by what we can \_\_\_\_\_.

The Gospel teaches us to look \_\_\_\_\_ and live for \_\_\_\_\_.  
(4:16-5:17)

**2. The Gospel is the Way of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.**

Our natural bent is to \_\_\_\_\_ affliction, trials and the hard stuff of life.

The Gospel teaches us to \_\_\_\_\_ and rejoice in affliction as God's way of \_\_\_\_\_ us and \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel. (1:3-11, 7:1-6)

**3. The Gospel is the Way of \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_.**

Our natural bent is to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ our weaknesses.

The Gospel teaches us to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in our weaknesses as God's way of showing His \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives. (11:30-12:10)



## Second Corinthians

Sunday, January 10, 2016

On this first week of Winter Growth Groups, take time to connect and share highlights and happenings from the holidays. If there are new folks joining your Growth Group, take time to introduce yourselves and welcome them.

1. What was your reaction to the Second Corinthians letter and Sunday's message? Any personal takeaways from this study?
2. Share together about what you know and remember about the background and set up for Paul's letters to the Corinthians? When and why does he write this second letter?
3. The church at Corinth is a MESS! Specifically, the Corinthian Christians are enamored with so called "super apostles." Read 2 Corinthians 11:1-20. What does Paul say about these "super apostles"?
4. What do we mean when we call the Gospel a "Way"? What do we mean we call the Gospel "counterintuitive"? What do we mean when we call the Gospel "countercultural"?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 4:16 -5:17. How do you see in yourself a natural bent to live for/by and judge by sight? What does it practically mean to

"walk by faith" not by sight? Why is that countercultural and counterintuitive?

6. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-11. How do you see in yourself a natural bent to avoid and eliminate "affliction" from your life? What are examples of affliction? What does it practically mean to embrace our affliction? What does affliction make us do in verse 9? Why is that countercultural and counterintuitive?
7. Read 2 Corinthians 11:30-12:10. How do you see in yourself a natural bent to hide or despise your weaknesses? What does Paul say our weaknesses are for in 12:9-10? What does it practically look like to delight in our weaknesses? Why is that countercultural and counterintuitive?

**Household/Family Focus:** for discussion in your household

Discuss how these 3 Gospel principles: 1) walking by faith not by sight, 2) comfort in affliction, and 3) strength through weakness are all countercultural and counterintuitive?

### Prayer

In light of 2 Corinthians, our study together, and your shared prayer requests, pray for one another that you may embrace, trust, and live this countercultural Gospel.