

Gentle Parenting Apostle
Small Group Questions
2 Corinthians 12:11-21
November 22

Community

- What fictional family would you most want to be a part? Why?

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

- What is one thing you would do differently this week as a result of this message?

Core: Read 2 Corinthians 12:11-21

1. What does Paul mean when he claims the Corinthian church forced him to be a fool?

2. Paul claims that the "signs of a true apostle were performed among" the Corinthians, including "signs and wonders and mighty works." How would you define a "true apostle?" Should any of those, or even all of those characteristics be present in our lives? Can you describe yourself as a "true disciple of Jesus?" What needs to change for that to be true? Should we expect signs, wonders and mighty works? What kinds and in what way?

3. What do you think it looks like to serve others with the "utmost patience?"

4. Have you every felt like someone was being kind or helping you for what you could do for them? How did that feel? Can that every be a problem in the church? In what ways? How do we insure that we serve others for the sake of those folks and not what they might give in return?

5. Paul says that he will “spend and be spent” for the the sake of the Corinthians’ souls. In what ways are you able to spend and/or be spent for the sake of others? Do you think that service matters eternally?

6. Is there anyone in your life that you would describe as “beloved?” That is how Paul describes the Corinthians. What do you think he means by that? By whom are they beloved?

7. What is Paul afraid of in verse 20? Read that list one more time; quarreling, jealousy, anger, hostility, slander, gossip, conceit and disorder, which of those characteristics poses the biggest threat to the church today? How do we best avoid such things?

8. Why would Paul need to mourn over the Corinthian church? Do you think we experience similar emotions over the refusal of believers to repent? Why? Why not?

9. What should we do to encourage others to turn quickly to Jesus?