2 Corinthians Series: “Learning to Lean on God”

“Answering His Critics”

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2 Corinthians 10:1-6

4.25.10

Introduction:
A. 2 Corinthians has three major __________:
1. Chapters _______ - A mild defense of Paul’s apostleship.
2. Chapters _______ - Their participation in the special collection.
3. Chapters _______ - A strong defense of Paul’s apostleship.

I. Understanding the Word
A. First criticism of Paul - he was _______ when absent and _______ when present.
B. Second criticism of Paul - he conducted himself in a _______ manner.
C. Paul’s opponents knew that one of the most successful ways to undermine his effectiveness was to cast _______ on the genuineness of his _____________.
D. Paul challenged them to think about the _______ that were being used for judgment and commendation.
E. Paul concluded by challenging them to confine their ________ to the right ________.

II. Applying the Word
A. We must accept the fact that ______________ is a part of life.
   1. We can take it too _______ and allow it to _______ us.
   2. We might not take it seriously enough, and so we don’t _______ from it. (Prov. 19:20; 12:1)
   3. When we are criticized, we should:
      a. _______ to it.
      b. _______ your defensiveness and your need to defend.
      c. _______ from it.
      d. _______ it go.
B. We must learn to evaluate things by the right ________.
C. We must learn to seek ______ ________. (Gal. 1:10; 2 Th. 2:4)