Paul's Concerns Lesson #10 2 Corinthians 12:11-13:14

Spiritual Parenting - 2 Corinthians 12:11-21

1.	Having to boast and draw attention to himself, Paul said "I have made a fool of myself, but you drove me to it." What would Paul have preferred and why? (2 Corinthians 12:11)
2.	What "marks" did Paul refer to as indication of a true apostle of Christ? (2 Corinthians 12:12a)
	• Were these marks evident when Paul was in Corinth? (2 Corinthians 12:12b)
3.	What "wrong" did Paul mention that may have led to their accusing Paul of treating them as inferior? (2 Corinthians 12:13)
4.	Using 2 Corinthians 12:14a: • Paul said this would be his visit.
	What did he not want?
	• What did he want?
5.	Paul thought of the Corinthians as his spiritual children. In the parent/child relationship, who did Paul say was responsible for the care of whom? (2 Corinthians 12:14b)
6.	What was Paul gladly willing to do? (2 Corinthians 12:15a)
7.	What did Paul say was his motivation for ministry and his desired response from them? (2 Corinthians 12:15b)

- 8. Paul reminded them once again that he had not been a burden to them, yet what sarcastic comment did he add? (2 Corinthians 12:16)
- 9. In his defense, what question did he ask? (2 Corinthians 12:17)
- 10. Who did Paul mention that he had sent to Corinth? (2 Corinthians 12:18a)
- 11. What was Paul's implied response to his rhetorical questions? (2 Corinthians 12:18b, c)
- 12. What did Paul say that he was doing and what reason did he give? (2 Corinthians 12:19)
- 13. What was Paul's concern when he made his visit to them? (2 Corinthians 12:20a)
- 14. What specific concerns did Paul anticipate? (2 Corinthians 12:20b)
- 15. These concerns weighed heavily on Paul's heart. He said, "I am afraid that when I come again my God will humble me before you ..." What did Paul say this would do to him and why? (2 Corinthians 12:21)

Paul's Final Warnings - 2 Corinthians 13:1-10

- 16. Reminding them of his impending visit, Paul added some stern warnings. What Old Testament laws did Paul include? (2 Corinthians 13:1)
- 17. What was Paul's reason for mentioning this law? (2 Corinthians 13:2)

- 18. What were they demanding of Paul? (2 Corinthians 13:3a)
- 19. Accused of being weak in person (10:1) and demanding proof of his apostleship to Christ, what did Paul say about Christ? (2 Corinthians 13:3b, 4a)
 - How did Paul relate that to himself? (2 Corinthians 13:4b)
- 20. What did Paul ask them to do? (2 Corinthians 13:5a)
- 21. The Corinthians had accepted the gospel and they were "in-Christ." What was Paul's hope for them? (2 Corinthians 13:5b, 6)
- 22. What was he praying for? (2 Corinthians 13:7)
- 23. As difficult as writing this letter had been for Paul, what did he say he could not do? (2 Corinthians 13:8)
- 24. What was Paul's comment in relation to that point? (2 Corinthians 13:9)
- 25. Before closing his letter, Paul reminded them one last time why he was writing this letter. What was his reason? (2 Corinthians 13:10)

Conclusion and Benediction - 2 Corinthians 13:11-14

26. "Finally brothers, good-by." In his final appeal, what did he plead with them to do? (2 Corinthians 13:11a)

- What did Paul want them to focus on? (2 Corinthians 13:11b)
- 27. Paul ended this letter with the instructions to greet one another with a holy kiss and also sent greetings from all the saints (believers). His closing benediction and blessing is longer than those in most of his letters. Take a close look at verse 14. What three persons did Paul call upon that reflect the trinity?
- 28. What attributes of God did Paul pray would be with them all?

Reflect:

This letter is the most personal of all Paul's letters to a church close to his heart. The situation that had caused Paul to write was that false teachers had come in and were attacking Paul's teaching and his authority.

After studying this letter, what do you think was the most difficult part of ministry for Paul (and the other apostles) in spreading the gospel message?

What do you think is one of the most difficult aspects of ministry today?