



PRIMARY SCRIPTURES

I have been a fool! You forced me to it, for I ought to have been commended by you. For I was not at all inferior to these super-apostles, even though I am nothing. 12 The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works. 13 For in what were you less favored than the rest of the churches, except that I myself did not burden you? Forgive me this wrong! Here for the third time I am ready to come to you. And I will not be a burden, for I seek not what is yours but you. For children are not obligated to save up for their parents, but parents for their children. 15 I will most gladly spend and be spent for your souls. If I love you more, am I to be loved less? 16 But granting that I myself did not burden you, I was crafty, you say, and got the better of you by deceit. 17 Did I take advantage of you through any of those whom I sent to you? 18 I urged Titus to go, and sent the brother with him. Did Titus take advantage of you? Did we not act in the same spirit? Did we not take the same steps? 19 Have you been thinking all along that we have been defending ourselves to you? It is in the sight of God that we have been speaking in Christ, and all for your upbuilding, beloved. 20 For I fear that perhaps when I come I may find you not as I wish, and that you may find me not as you wish—that perhaps there may be quarreling, jealousy, anger, hostility, slander, gossip, conceit, and disorder. 21 I fear that when I come again my God may humble me before you, and I may have to mourn over many of those who sinned earlier and have not repented of the impurity, sexual immorality, and sensuality that they have practiced.

2 Corinthians 12:11-21

SUMMARY

What godly concerns should be carried by believers for one another? This is an important question. The question itself forces us to move beyond ourselves to consider others. Paul clearly lays out the godly concerns he has for the Corinthians and models the concern of Christ for His people. This week's message will answer the question of what concerns we should carry and provide a specific call to action which is timely for us as a church family at Tomball Bible Church.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read 2 Corinthians 12:11-13. Why does Paul feel the Corinthians forced him to become a fool?
2. Read 2 Corinthians 12:14-18. What does the phrase, "I will most gladly spend and be spent for your souls," mean?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 12:19-21. What is Paul's primary aim in writing this letter and making a third visit to the Corinthians? Why is Paul fearful of seeing them again?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 13:1-4 and Matthew 18:15-20. How will Paul's discipline of unrepentant sin prove that Christ is at work in him?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 11:1-4 and 13:5-10. How can we know that we pass the test of faith?
6. How do Paul's godly concerns model the concerns we should have for one another in the church?

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