

**Approved By Jesus**

July 17, 2022

FBC MISSION: Seeking to honor God by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus who love, live, and share Him.

Memory Verse for July: Psalm 31:13-14

**Text:** 2 Corinthians 10:7-18

**Introduction:**

**Big Idea:** The Christian's life is \_\_\_\_\_.

**1. External appearances are most \_\_\_\_\_ (7-11)**

**2. \_\_\_\_\_ is most unwise (12)**

**3. Christ-centered boasting is \_\_\_\_\_ (13-18)**

- Paul is boasting in the work God is doing \_\_\_\_\_ him.
- Paul's hope is that as the Corinthian faith increases that it gives them greater areas of influence.
- Paul's joy is not in himself or promoting himself.
- Paul's joy is that he can continue to do God's work.

**TRUTH INTO ACTION:**

- #1 - God assigns each Christian an area of influence. **Discover yours and lean into it!**
- #2 - God's agenda for me centers on making much of Jesus Christ. **Live to make Him known!**
- #3 - God intends for the "gospel influence" to extend beyond me. **Keep your eyes on Jesus and off yourself!**

Forbid it, Lord, that I should  
boast, Save in the death of  
Christ my God; All the vain  
things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

—Isaac Watts



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

## Table Talk

Warm Up: What is the best, most memorable moment from your childhood?

1. Why does Paul say in verse 7, “look at what is before your eyes?” What does he want them to see?

2. What sins either cause comparing or spring out of comparing with others?

[Help: Jealousy, pride, boasting, selfishness, empty conceit, vain rivalry, and greed are just a few of the sins that comparing either stems from or leads to.]

3. Hebrews 12:2 tells us to “fix our eyes on Jesus.” Set your eyes on Him means to focus on Jesus and to carefully examine Jesus. Remember that His is the only opinion that really matters. How can you fix your eyes on Jesus the Author and Finisher of your faith?

4. What did Paul remind the Corinthians of in verse 14?

5. What can we learn about Paul’s goal in verse 15?

6. Jeremiah 9:24 reads “but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.” What does God mean to communicate to you in this portion of the Bible?

7. Boasting means to lift up or draw attention to something. Normally it is used in a negative connotation when referring to oneself. Boasting in the Lord is drawing attention to Him and lifting Him up. It is magnifying Him as the object of praise. Instead of saying, “I am great” it is saying, “God is great.” What can you do today to “boast in the Lord?”

Closing Prayer: Father you designed each of us uniquely. Help me to see your hand in my life and help me to anchor my soul in Bible truth and live my life for you.