



COMMUNITY
CHURCH

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

February 13, 2021

2 Corinthians 11:1-15:

“Jealous for His Church with a Godly Jealousy”

1. Feeling critical? Tread cautiously and ask why. Is it to lead them to God?

“... Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret ...” (2 Corinthians 7:8–10)

2. Bear with your teachers - even through a bit of foolishness. ☺

Remember chapter 10: Pastors are striving to:

- Be humble when with you
- Live a life that matches their words
- Boast only in Christ
- Trying to build up not tear down (can be hard to see in the moment)

3. Our Godly (or righteous) jealousy, anger, judgement, or criticism ought to be aimed at restoring, protecting, and purifying His Church.

“I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy.” (2 Corinthians 11:2)

4. Marriage is a picture of Christ and His Church.

Like a good husband longs for his wife, Christ longs for His Church.

5. When we see another’s sin (like Corinth’s acceptance and tolerance of corrupt teaching), we ought to examine our own sin. Perfection, here and now, is not the point... not yet. Repentance is the key.

“And if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. (Romans 11:23)

*“I am afraid that when I come again my God will humble me before you, and I will be grieved over many who have sinned earlier and have **not repented** of the impurity, sexual sin and debauchery in which they have indulged.” (2 Corinthians 12:21)*

6. Our minds matter. What we think of God matters. When our minds are led astray (deceived and depraved), devotion to Christ is not possible.

*“The essence of idolatry is the entertainment of thoughts about God that are unworthy of Him. It begins in the **mind**...”*

*“It is morally imperative that we purge from our **minds** all ignoble concepts of the Deity and let Him be the God in our minds that He is in His universe.” (A.W. Tozer)*

7. Our purity and devotion to Christ hinge on us knowing: who Christ is, who the Spirit of God is, and what the Gospel is.

“Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.” (John 4:23-24)

True worshippers enter by the work and Word of Christ and live in the presence of the Spirit.

8. Paul wanted nothing to get in the way of Corinth knowing Christ. He gave of himself fully. He took no money, so they had no personal justification in paying him. He stood out from the false teachers. He loved them, not with human love, but with spiritual love - Christ's love.

“Contrary to all my own opinions and convictions, Jesus Christ will tell me what love toward the brethren really is. Therefore, spiritual love is bound solely on the Word of Christ. Where Christ bids me to maintain fellowship for the sake of love, I will maintain it. Where His truth enjoins me to dissolve a fellowship for love's sake, there I will dissolve it, despite all the protests of my human love. Because spiritual love does not desire but serves...”
(Bonhoeffer, Life Together)

9. Be on guard. The enemy is active...even here in the church... even among your pastors and leaders. Test them. Test their words. Test their lives. Study the Word. Be devoted to Christ together.

*"When you look for the devil, don't forget to look in the pulpit."
(BOYCE - an old proverb)*

10. How do we know if they are from the Lord? Test the spirit in which they come.

"By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God." (1 John 4:2-3)

11. CHRIST, the Good Husband, the Great Shepherd, HE ACHES FOR YOU ... JEALOUSLY.

Psalm 23 - don't just know the psalm... know the Shepherd.

HOME GROUP Questions for 2 Corinthians 11:1-15:

1. What concern did Paul have for the Corinthians? How did the Corinthians react to the false teaching? How should they have reacted? Who are the "super-apostles" Paul mentions? Why does he call them this? What do we learn from verse 6 about what is really important to look for in a Bible teacher or pastor? What kind of things do many focus on in regard to speakers?
2. What was Paul's ministry model like toward the Corinthians? Why did he emphasize that here? How can a Christian worker discern when to accept money and when not to? What principles may guide this decision?
3. What is the mode of operation for false apostles? What tactics do they use? Why is deceit such an effective strategy? What can you learn about Satan from this passage? If Satan is the most evil being in the universe, then why does he appear as an angel of light? Knowing that Satan is a master of deception, how can believers guard themselves? How can you train yourself to be more discerning? Share an example of a time when you were either deceived or almost deceived. What did you learn?
4. Cross references:
 - Psalm 101:7
 - Romans 16:18
 - Ephesians 5:6
 - 2 Timothy 3:13
 - James 3:13-15