

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

## November 28, 2021 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1: Yoked to Christ

I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the **yoke** of the Egyptians. (Exodus 6:7)

So Israel **yoked** themselves to the Baal of Peor. And the Lord's anger burned against them. (Numbers 2:3)

Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:

to loose the chains of injustice

and untie the cords of the **yoke**,

to set the oppressed free

and break every **yoke**? (Isaiah 58:6)

Do not plow with an ox and a donkey **yoked** together. (Deuteronomy 22:10)

*Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. (2 Corinthians 6:14)* 

Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

## What is this passage NOT SAYING?

God is not saying you need to live in a Christian bubble. God is not saying here that you should never develop relationships with unbelievers.

I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. (1 Corinthians 5:9-10)

The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners."

(Matthew 11:19)

My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. (John 17:15)

## So – what IS this passage saying?

Clearly, those, with whom one yokes his/her life, powerfully impacts us. So, choose carefully - for the glory of GOD is at stake!

For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? 2 Corinthians 6:14-15

We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you. We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us. As a fair exchange—I speak as to my children—open wide your hearts also. (2 Cor 6:11-13)

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

## **HOME GROUP Questions for 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1...**

- 1. Why does Paul use the illustration of a yoke? What does this imagery convey? What does it mean to be unequally yoked with unbelievers? What are some examples of unequal yoking?
- 2. What five contrasts does Paul make between believers and unbelievers? What do these contrasts show us about the fundamental problems with yoking with an unbeliever?
- 3. Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, unless they are agreed? How does this apply to marriage? Does it apply to dating/courtship?
- 4. What other areas can unequal yoking apply to besides marriage? How do verses 16b-17 apply to this situation? What is the result in verse 18 when believers follow God's principles?
  - 1 Corinthians 15:33
  - Proverbs 13:20
  - Deuteronomy 7:3-5
  - Psalm 106:35