



April 21, 2024 | Pastor Keith Krell
2 Corinthians 6:1-13 | “The Adversity of Ministry”

Sermon Application Review from 2 Corinthians 5:21

Were you able to begin a gospel conversation this past week?
Did you write a Seven for Heaven/Seven for Earth card?

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 6:1–13
1 Corinthians 15:10
Titus 2:11–15
2 Corinthians 4:7–12
2 Corinthians 11:23–33
Colossians 1:24–29
Hebrews 3:12–15

Study Questions

1. When have you most clearly experienced “working together” with God in ministry (6:1a)? How often do you express gratitude for the privilege of serving the Lord and His church? When have you “received the grace of God in vain” (6:1b)? How can you specifically live and serve with a sense of urgency (6:2)?
2. How can you balance Christian scandals with examples of integrity (6:3)? How can you acknowledge the sins of Christians without being defensive? When was the last time your reputation was called into question? How did you respond? In what ways are you genuine and transparent before God (6:4)?
3. What is the toughest problem you face today (6:3–10)? Does it involve your reputation, physical health, emotions, or finances? How do Paul’s challenges motivate you when you experience difficulties ministering to others?
4. Share a story about persecution—either in your own life or in someone you know (6:4–6). What were the circumstances? How did you feel? How often do you pray for the persecuted church? What country could you, your family, or your community group adopt in prayer?
5. How much of your heart do you reveal to those you serve (6:11–13)? When have you opened your heart wide to others without reciprocation? How did you manage the relationship? Is there currently someone to whom you are either restricting your feelings or vice versa? How can this relationship be restored?

Recommended Reading

Ajith Fernando, *The Call to Joy and Pain: Embracing Suffering in Your Ministry* (Crossway, 2007); *Jesus Driven Ministry* (Crossway, 2007)
Michael Reeves, *Authentic Ministry: Serving from the Heart* (Union, 2022)
R. C. Sproul, *Surprised by Suffering: The Role of Pain and Death in the Christian Life* (Ligonier, 2023)