Discovering the Treasures of the Word

## <u>2 Corinthians</u> Lesson #15, Chapter 11:1-33

Read Chapter 11 and as you do ask the Lord for His help in studying His Word.

- 1. Who is Paul's target audience in this chapter?
- 2. Summarize the contents of 2 Corinthians 10 to remind yourself of Paul's train of thought as it leads into this chapter.
- 3. Why does Paul decide to engage in "foolishness" in this chapter (verses 2-3)?
- 4. From verses 3-4, make 5 or more observations about being led astray.
- 5. Chapter 11 contains many references to the accusations and rumors Paul battles in this letter. List 3 or more accusations/rumors from Chapter 11.
- 6. One of the accusations against Paul was that he didn't need monetary support because he "robbed" other churches. What's the truth in the matter? Explain why Paul does what he does after examining Acts 18:3; 20:33-35; 1 Cor. 9:3-15; 2 Cor. 12:13-18; and 2 Thess. 3:7-8.
- 7. Why won't Paul stop his boasting or foolishness (verses 11-12)?

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- 8. In verses 12-22, what do you learn about the false apostles?
- Looking only at Paul's letters, what else do you learn about the method, motive, and resulting mayhem of the false teachers? See Rom. 16:18; 2 Cor. 2:17; 4:2; Gal. 1:7; 2:4; 4:17; 6:12; Eph. 4:14; Phil. 1:15-17; Col. 2:4, 8; 1 Tim. 1:4-7; 4:1-3; 6:3-5; 2 Tim. 2:17-19; 3:5-9; 4:3, 4.
- 10. In verses 16-21, what does Paul reprove the Corinthians for doing?
- 11. How do verses 23-29 prove that Paul's message is true and that he is sincere in his ministry to the Corinthians?
- 12. What else do you learn about Paul's ministry as a servant of Christ from these verses? See 1 Cor. 3:5; 4:1; 2 Cor. 3:6; 6:4; 1 Thess. 3:2; 1 Tim. 4:6.
- 13. How do Paul's actions and attitudes (from Questions 11 and 12) contrast with the false teachers' actions and attitudes (from Questions 8 and 9)?
- 14. What internal pressure did Paul face as a servant of Christ according to verses 28-29?
- 15. How did Paul exhibit his care and concern for the Corinthians? See 2 Cor. 2:4-5; 7:5-6; and 13:9?

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- 16. Paul ends this chapter by revealing what he considered to be his weakest moment. What happened? See verses 32-33 and Acts 9:1-25. Why do you think Paul considered that to such a time of weakness?
- 17. As you think back over this chapter, what is it that Paul wants the Corinthians to understand?
- 18. How can the truths from this chapter protect you from false teachers who will come into the church?
- 19. As you think about the weak moment(s) in your life, consider your response to them. Have you chosen to "boast" about them like Paul did to reveal God's work in you? How has God taken your weak moments and brought glory to Himself?