

Week 31 – Questions to Consider

Fun Small Group Warm Up Question:

If you were stranded on a desert island and could only bring one suitcase full of items, what would you want to have?

2 Corinthians 2- 6

1. What are some examples of “tough” conversations? Why are they so difficult? When are they necessary? In 2 Corinthians 1:23-2:4 talks about the strained relationship between him and the Corinthian church yet his continued love and concern for them. Who has God put in your life that has been tough to love?
2. In 2 Corinthians 2:5-11 describes church discipline (much as in 1 Corinthians 5, see: www.trustworthyword.com/church-discipline). What does discipline look like in your home? What does discipline look like in your church? Why is forgiveness so important? Why is restoration our goal? How is that a picture of Christ’s love?
3. What are some of your most favorite smells? Why? What smells do you detest? Why? What do you think God means when He describes Christians as the “aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing” (2 Corinthians 2:15)? Look at 2 Corinthians 2:16. How do Christians “smell” to other Christians? Why? How do Christians “smell” to non-believers? Why? How have you experienced this?
4. How do we try to be “self-sufficient” in life? Why can it be so hard to ask for help from others? Where does our sufficiency ultimately come from? (2 Corinthians 3:5-6). Why do we need this reminder? What is the purpose of God’s sufficiency for us and in us?
5. This about your own salvation experience. How did you experience God removing the “veil” when He saved you? How did you behold the goodness and greatness of God differently? How did others see or experience God through you?
6. “Disgraceful, underhanded ways” and “tamper[ing] with God’s word” are described in 2 Corinthians 4:1-2. How have you seen that done in your life experiences with those professing the name of Jesus? How do we protect ourselves and our church from such temptations?
7. What goes through your mind when you think of your life? Disappointments? Accomplishments? Purpose? What would you still like to accomplish? Why? Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-10. How does this passage encourage you? Re-energize you? Re-focus your purpose with whatever time the Lord allows you to continue to live?

More questions at: www.southfork.church/2022-discussion-questions

Our Spiritual Heritage

2 Corinthians 2-6 (ESV)

Church P _____ - “Rules of Decorum”

2 Corinthians 2:10–11 “Anyone whom you forgive, I also forgive. Indeed, what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ, [11] so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.”

2 Corinthians 2:15–17 “For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, [16] to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? [17] For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God’s word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.”

Church B _____ - “Articles of Faith”

2 Corinthians 4:2 “But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God’s word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone’s conscience in the sight of God.”

Spirit of Cooperation C _____ - Benjamin Lynn, James Skaggs, Joseph Barnett, John Garrard, John LaRue, John Severns

2 Corinthians 4:1 “Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.”

2 Corinthians 4:5 “For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake.”

C_____ : John Walters, William Whitman

2 Corinthians 4:8–10 “We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; [9] persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; [10] always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.”

2 Corinthians 6:4–10 “but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, [5] beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; [6] by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; [7] by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; [8] through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; [9] as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; [10] as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.”

Church M_____ Matters:

Receive, Baptize, Dismiss, Letters

2 Corinthians 5:11 “Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others.”

Church D_____ - Failures, Confession, Restoration, & Exclusion/Excommunication

2 Corinthians 2:1 “For I made up my mind not to make another painful visit to you.”

2 Corinthians 2:6–7 “For such a one, this punishment by the majority is enough, [7] so you should rather turn to forgive and comfort him, or he may be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.”

www.trustworthyword.com/church-discipline

E_____ : 240 Years of Serving Jesus

2 Corinthians 4:16–18 “So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. [17] For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, [18] as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.”

This Next Week’s New Testament Reading Plan:

Week 32: 2 Corinthians 7-11

- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo
- **Our Plan:** www.southfork.church/2022-bible-reading-plan

Our Spiritual Heritage

2 Corinthians 2-6 (ESV)

Church Purpose - “Rules of Decorum”

2 Corinthians 2:10–11 “Anyone whom you forgive, I also forgive. Indeed, what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ, [11] so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.”

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Church Beliefs - “Articles of Faith”

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Spirit of Cooperation Cooperation - Benjamin Lynn, James Skaggs, Joseph Barnett, John Garrard, John LaRue, John Severns

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Courage: John Walters, William Whitman

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Church Membership Matters: Receive, Baptize, Dismiss, Letters

2 Corinthians 5:11 “Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others.”

Church Discipline - Failures, Confession, Restoration, & Exclusion/Excommunication

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Endurance: 240 Years of Serving Jesus

2 Corinthians 4:16–18 “So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. [17] For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, [18] as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.”