

Series "Strength In Weakness"
"Walk The Talk"
2 Corinthians 12:11-21
Study-20

2 Corinthians 12:11

Paul was forced to defend his apostleship! (Paul had to defend himself because his calling; his message of the gospel was under attack!)

Paul now summarized his Apostolic defense.

Thought Of Our Passage: "The Believer That Walks Their Talk Can Say, Follow Me As I Follow Christ."

- 1. Verses 11-13 Walk The Talk With Sacrifice**
- 2. Verses 14-19 Walk The Talk With Money**
- 3. Verses 20-21 Walk The Talk With Sin**

1. Verses 11-13 Walk The Talk With Sacrifice

2 Corinthians 12:11 I have become foolish; you yourselves compelled me. This is really the climax to Paul's boasting.

Paul explains to the Corinthians why he finally resorts to boasting: It is the only thing that will impress them and win them back.

Actually I should have been commended by you, - Paul has shared his sufferings, his love and sacrificial giving of himself to the Corinthians.

for in no respect was I inferior to the most eminent (Super) apostles, - There were those false teachers that were saying that Paul was inferior to Peter and John, and the rest of the apostles.

even though I am a nobody. Ephesians 3:8; Psalms 22:6

John 15:4-5

2 Corinthians 12:12

What is a sign?

Signs Impart Information:

**Signs can be a foretoken, prophetic: (John's Gospel 7 signs)
Mark 6:30-44**

Signs conveying authority:

Hebrews 2:4

Signs – (Instructive value) *"The divine manifestation of God's workings, it was proof of God's anointing."* *"That which gets our attention."*

wonders - That is (the response of man) to the signs and the workings of God.

and miracles. Miraculous, (the powerful works)

with all perseverance, - Paul's steadfast endurance under trial that gave evidence that he was divinely called and commissioned.

2 Timothy 2:24-25

by signs (Symbolic meaning) **and wonders and miracles.**

2 Corinthians 12:13 For in what respect were you treated as inferior to the rest of the churches, 1 Corinthians 7:17; 14:33

except that I myself did not become a burden to you? (Sarcastic) Forgive me this wrong!

Sacrificing in Faith & Practice – Is God's power working in us and through us? Is God clearly seen in me?

2. Verses 14-19 Walk The Talk With Money

2 Corinthians 12:14 Here for this third time I am ready to come to you, (Acts 18) Paul had made plans to come to them but in doing so he was open to God.

and I will not be a burden to you; How different Paul was from these other teachers that were seeking money from the people. Paul did not want things, he wanted them.

for I do not seek what is yours, but you; This is the heart of a true servant of God. Not what I can get, but seeing Jesus produced in you!

1 Peter 5:2-3

for children are not responsible to save up for their parents, but parents for their children. The principle that a young child is cared for by the parents.

2 Corinthians 12:15 I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls. A true mark of God's servant is the willingness to give of yourself to make the sacrifice.

If I love you more, am I to be loved the less? If you are giving and serving others, you would think that the relationship would be reciprocal.

2 Corinthians 12:16 But be that as it may, I did not burden you myself; nevertheless, - Paul stood by his record. He never expected anything.

crafty fellow that I am, I took you in by deceit. (Paul Was Sneaky)
1 Corinthians 13:7-8

2 Corinthians 12:17 any of those whom I have sent to you, have I? but all that I sent to you have not done so either.

2 Corinthians 12:18 I urged Titus to go, and I sent the brother with him. Titus was a fellow minister of Paul. He was sent along with another un-named brother in **2 Corinthians 8:18**

2 Corinthians 12:19 All this time you have been thinking that we are defending ourselves to you. What Paul says here is so revolutionary for our day!

and all for your upbuilding, beloved. Sometimes we are with people, and you feel drained.

Money faith and Practice – Do I love things and use people, or do I love people and use things?

3. Verses 20-21 Walk The Talk With Sin

2 Corinthians 12:20 For I am afraid that perhaps when I come I may find you to be not what I wish - Paul was concerned that when he finally arrived, there would be a difficult encounter.

and may be found by you to be not what you wish;
There were many false accusations that had been made against Paul.

Social Sins: that perhaps there will be strife, jealousy, angry tempers, disputes, slanders, gossip, arrogance, disturbances;

that perhaps there may be strife, "*Debate, contention, variance, wrangling.*"

jealousy, literally is "*anger or being mad over the blessings of others.*"
Thinking that God has shortchanged us!

angry tempers, Anger is neutral. It is God given to destroy problems but not people. Extremes of anger is blowing up and clamming up! Both are sinful.

disputes, - We get our word "Politics" from here. It is the idea of getting people to take our side.

slanders, - Interesting that Satan is called "The Slanderer!"
Character assassination. Destroy others so we can be built up!

gossip, (Cheese-mosa, Cheese-Moso)

arrogance, "*Puffed up in soul, pride*"

disturbances; "*commotion, instability, a state of disorder, disturbance confusion*"

2 Corinthians 12:21 I am afraid that when I come again my God may humiliate me before you, - Paul was not concerned about the congregation's approval of him.

Galatians 6:1-2

Sexual Sins: of the impurity, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced.

impurity, "*Unclean in a moral sense, filthy mind.*"

Immorality (Privet) "*adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, bestiality*" (*Extra-marital, and pre-marital relationships*)

and sensuality (Public) "*unbridled lust, excess, lasciviousness, wantonness, outrageousness, shamelessness.*"

which they have practiced. These are Christians! **1 Corinthians 6:9-11**

Sin faith and Practice – Do I fear man or God? Do people keep me from forsaking sin?

Application:

1. Every Believer Is In Need Of God's Grace To Endure Life's Sacrifices And Sufferings.
2. Beware Of The Love Of Money: "Love People And Use Things, Or Love Things And Use People."
3. Beware Of Failing To Fear God And Then Replacing It With The Fear Of Man. This Will Lead To Hindering Us From Dealing With Sin.