

II Corinthians 1: 8-12 How Bad Might It Be; How Much Help Do You Get?
10/12/2025 Sermon 2

Ex. One of the joys of counseling is to get to the point that the person involved begins to see not just WHAT they are doing but WHY they are doing it. Until that point a corrective course is temporary at best.

II Cor. is an intensely personal look at the life of Paul as he pours himself out. We truly see the inner landscape of the man. He does this for the sake of the church.

He not only lets you in on HOW he does things, but also WHY he does them. That is incredibly important for me, if I am to be a genuine believer. If I am to become a "one-person-person."

Question: Who else was like that? David in the Psalms. That is why we cannot get enough of the Psalms!

In Acts we see what He did and a bit of the inner struggle in Acts 20. In II Cor. you get the fuller picture of the man himself. Again, all for your sake, not Paul gaining sympathy for himself.

Question: What was he up against? False apostles who were perhaps better speakers, but were empty shells of men. Men who deliberately lead the weak astray by fine -sounding words, but ended in deadly spiritual consequences.

He carried out his mission without sacrificing a clear conscience!

Text: 1 Cor. 1:8-12

Review: 1:3-7 They basically suffer together, and are comforted together, but Paul and the other leaders took the big hits for them so that they could receive even more comfort. Because they could not have taken the hits that the leaders took. Like a commander, or parent.

1:8-10 When you survive something extremely difficult you can come through it stronger, clearer, wiser; but only by total surrender to the Lord. It takes no advanced knowledge to do so. God will see you through!

Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

1: 11 Intercessory prayer is vital in the body of Christ! I Timothy 2:1/James 5:16/Matt 18:19-20

1:12 "testimony of our conscience" I Tim 1:5-6/ 11 Cor. 11:3.

Ex. Jiminy Cricket- "Let your conscience be your guide."

Question: Is that always true? Can your conscience be your guide?

Ex. Phillips "Your God Is Too Small" (Resident Policeman)

Paul's conscience was informed by the Word of God, and so should ours!