

Epistles to the

Corinthians

Love

&

Light

Lesson Eleven

2 Corinthians 7:2-10:18



"Let light shine out of darkness"



"Let the Word of Christ
dwell in you richly."

Colossians 3:16

Dwelling Richly

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Lesson Eleven Day One

...Day by Day...

Scripture references are linked to BibleGateway.com

Write in the date you plan to complete each day.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>My Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Content</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>March 21 or 22</u>	Day 1...	Review Message
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 2...	2 Corinthians 7:2-10:18
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 3...	2 Corinthians 7:2-16
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 4...	2 Corinthians 8:1-15/Matthew 6
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 5...	2 Corinthians 8:16-24
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 6...	2 Corinthians 9:1-5
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 7...	2 Corinthians 9:6-15
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 8...	2 Corinthians 10:1-12
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 9...	2 Corinthians 10:13-18
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 10...	Create & Share

...Meditate & Memorize...

After completing Day Two, select a verse to memorize. Share the verse in the group on the Church Center app.

Scan Here to share:

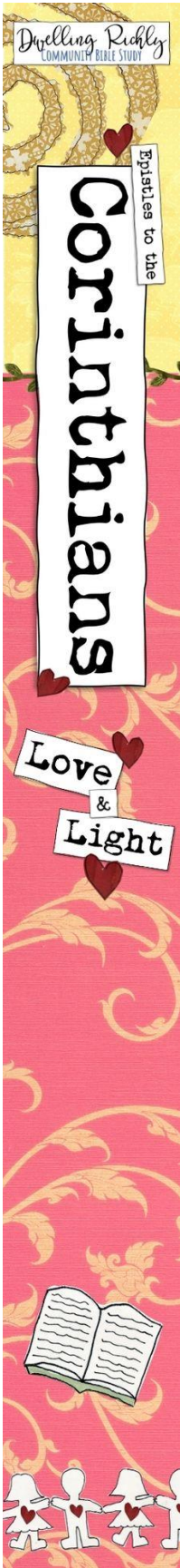


Scan then select: "Search Manually" then
Look for "La Mirada Church, 90638"

Message me and I'll make a verse wallpaper for you - or design your own and share in the group.



Lesson Eleven Day One



...Quiet Time...

- **Shhhh...** Breathe. Pray. Reflect and prepare quietly on your own and allow others to do the same.










1. **Thinking Back...** What verse or passage really stood out to you in this past lesson? Why?
2. **Making a Connection...** How have you felt encouraged or convicted as you let the Word of God dwell in you the past two weeks?

(As time permits, we'll be sharing these responses after Grace Groups during Q&R.)

3. **Q & R Time** follows the teaching time. If you have questions for Pastor Jennifer, you can make a note of those here. You can also jot questions down that come up during Grace Groups.
4. **Get Ready.** Read the Grace Group questions on the next page and think about your responses. Pray for your Grace Group leader and others in this study.

Lesson Eleven Day One

...Grace Group... ..Guidelines.

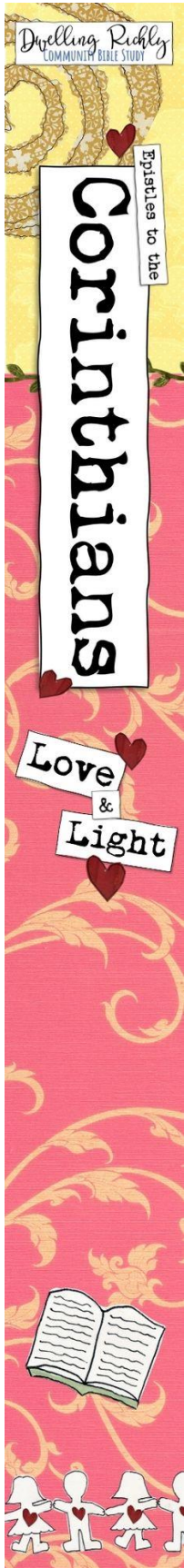
1.  **God's Word is our standard.** We'll use the Bible - not personal opinion, popular teachers, or church tradition - as our guide for everything. We are using the New English Translation (NET) Bible for this study, but you can use any trustworthy Bible translation (not a paraphrase) to study from.
2.  **We come from varying religious & political backgrounds.** Remember: 'In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.'
3.  **Avoid commentaries or study notes in your Bible** - do your own thinking. Trust God, pray, ask for wisdom then read and answer on your own.
4.  **We're all learning.** Be gracious and patient with yourself and with others. No one has it all figured out.
5.  **This is a Bible study** - not a personal-opinion group. So, there are going to be "right" and "wrong" answers in keeping with the truth of God's Word.
6.  **Share or Listen.** You don't have to share, but if you did the reading and responded to that prompt, why not chime in? We all benefit from one another's thoughts and questions. I bet you have something great to share!
7.  **Done or Not Done...Come.** Didn't finish the study this week? That's ok. Life gets busy. You're here! Yay, you! This will be a good week for you to listen and be encouraged by others.
8.  **Be considerate.** Share your thoughts on questions you completed and allow time for others to do the same - limit yourself to about 2 minutes maximum and try to stay on topic. Your group leader will help with that.
9.  **Pray.** Pray when you arrive, while you're in Grace Groups, during teaching time. Pray for your understanding to grow. Pray for your Grace Group leaders. Pray for one another. Let's be women who go to the Father for one another and seek His face together.

..Discussion.

Thank you for thoughtfully engaging based on the studying you did over the past two weeks. Our goal is to "let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly" so we defer to those who've done that as we share.

- Day One...** *How are you growing? - Share a point from the previous message, Grace Groups, or Q&R time that helped you grow in your understanding of God's Word. (pg 234/Lesson 10)
- Day Two...** Pages 235-236, Read "My Heart to Yours" - How has studying Corinthians made you more aware of God's transforming power in your life?
- Day Three...** Pages 237-38, #s 3, 9, 11
- Day Four...** Pages 239-40, #s 3, 4, 5
- Day Five...** Pages 241-42, #s 1*, 7, (*also #8 which was included in #1)
- Day Six...** Pages 243-44, #s 2, 3, 6,
- Day Seven...** Pages 245-46, #s 3, 5, 9
- Day Eight...** Pages 247-48, #s 5, 10
- Day Nine...** Pages 249-50, #s 2, 10
- Day Ten...** Page 251, Share your "Create & Share" - let's see those earthen vessels!

Lesson Eleven Day One



Take Notes Here – You can also watch or listen to this teaching session any time on the Dwelling Richly podcast (iTunes, Spotify, any podcast app) or [YouTube.com/c/JenniferRichmond](https://www.youtube.com/c/JenniferRichmond)

Lesson Eleven Day Two

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: Getting the Big Picture

- ☐ **Pause & Pray.** Pray for your Grace Group as we all begin this new lesson through God's Word.
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate.** After today's reading come back and write the verse you've selected to memorize.
- ☐ **Simply Read.** 2 Corinthians 7:2-10:18

...Read & Engage...

God/Holy Spirit/**BLUE**; Jesus/**RED**; People/**BROWN**; Places/**GREEN**; Key Ideas/**ORANGE**; Quotes/**YELLOW**; Prophecy/OT/**PINK**

Add notes in each section below as you read this passage.

	God/Jesus/Holy Spirit...	Key Verse/Words/Phrases...
DAY THREE 2 Corinthians 7:2-16	<u>Linking...</u> (OT/NT, promise, prophecy, prompt, people)	<u>Thinking...</u> (question, observation, command, application)
DAY FOUR 2 Corinthians 8:1-15/Matt 6	<u>Linking...</u> (OT/NT, promise, prophecy, prompt, people)	<u>Thinking...</u> (question, observation, command, application)
DAY FIVE 2 Corinthians 8:16-24	<u>Linking...</u> (OT/NT, promise, prophecy, prompt, people)	<u>Thinking...</u> (question, observation, command, application)
DAY SIX 2 Corinthians 9:1-5	<u>Linking...</u> (OT/NT, promise, prophecy, prompt, people)	<u>Thinking...</u> (question, observation, command, application)

Lesson Eleven Day Two

DAY SEVEN 2 Corinthians 9:6-15	God/Jesus/Holy Spirit...	Key Verse/Words/Phrases...
	Linking...(OT/NT, promise, prophecy, prompt, people)	Thinking...(question, observation, command, application)
DAY EIGHT 2 Corinthians 10:1-12	God/Jesus/Holy Spirit...	Key Verse/Words/Phrases...
	Linking...(OT/NT, promise, prophecy, prompt, people)	Thinking...(question, observation, command, application)
DAY NINE 2 Corinthians 10:13-18	God/Jesus/Holy Spirit...	Key Verse/Words/Phrases...
	Linking...(OT/NT, promise, prophecy, prompt, people)	Thinking...(question, observation, command, application)
Which verse are you memorizing? Write it in the verse box on the previous page. Share with our Church Center group.		

...My Heart to Yours...

Have you ever had a narrow escape? The kind when you gasp almost cartoon-like with relief because you made it there safely or made it out without incident or just in the nick of time? An overwhelming feeling of delight comes over you as you breathe out an exaggerated, "Phew!" You look around and think about the antics that happened to get you to where you are and you're silly with joy at having made it.

My friend and I were racing to meet a flight. We were a ridiculous sight running across the parking lot with our baggage banging and bouncing against us with each step. Weaving between parked cars, dashing to miss the moving ones, we sprinted through the terminal like quarterbacks leaping over suitcases nervously laughing at our own spectacle and yet anxiously panicked at the thought of missing our plane. With our tickets flailing in hand and the gate in sight, we yelled for the stewardess, "We're coming!" Just in time we slapped our passes on the counter to get checked through and with exhausted and relieved sighs we double over for a moment to catch our breath before walking down the corridor toward the plane as the door shut behind us.

The relief we experienced was greater because of the ordeal we had been through and the thankfulness we had that we actually made it. This is the joyful relief of the truly thankful believer. Why does God love a cheerful giver?

Because they get it. They get what they could have missed and they understand what they have received. The cheerful giver is filled with hilarity and joy at the privilege of giving because they know what an inexpressible gift they've been given and the thought of partnering with the God who saved them is an inexpressible joy as well. Those who get it, give - not out of compulsion, not begrudgingly, but with hilarious joy - at the opportunity to share in God's work. We've been given much and we give generously because of it. God loves a cheerful giver because we are most like Him when we love lavishly through giving, and that is a delight to our Creator.

Lesson Eleven Day Three

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: Repentance without Regret

- ☐ Pause & Pray.
- ☐ Memorize & Meditate.
- ☐ Simply Read: 2 Corinthians 7:2-16
- ☐ Write the Word: Write today's passage.

...Read & Engage...

1. **Understanding Paul.** How would you describe Paul's relationship with the Corinthians and how he personally feels toward them based on what you've studied in both epistles? Consider the following: [1 Cor 1:4,10-16; 2:1-5; 3:1-2; 4:17-20; 9:12, 15; 11:1-2, 17ff; 16:5-7; 2 Cor. 1:6-8, 23-24; 2:1-4ff; 6:11-13](#)

2. **Character Sketch.** Write a simple description of a Christian:

3. **Setting the Scene.** What has Paul been urging the church in the passage just before this? Consider 2 Cor. 6:1-7:1. This can be summarized in four points. (Review your notes from the Lesson 10 message, pg 256

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

4. **Do as I have done.** What request (2 Cor. 6:13, 7:2) does Paul make of the church in Corinth and on what basis? (2 Cor. 7:2-)

Lesson Eleven 🌿 Day Three

5. **Paul's Hope and Joy.** How does Paul express his hope (7:3-4a) for the Corinthians and in spite of what (7:4b) ?

6. **The Cost of Caring.** What insights can you gain from Paul's about how he dealt with ministry struggles as well as the impact of seeing Titus? How does this example encourage you in the way you engage with people going through difficulties in ministry? (7:5-7)

7. **Good Grief.** How did Paul live out the truth of [Ephesians 4:15](#)? How did Paul's letter (7:8,12) impact the Corinthians? Was it worth it to Paul? (7:8-13)

8. **A Good Sign.** What demonstrates to Paul that the Corinthians have turned their behavior around? Consider 1 Cor. 2:3, Eph. 6:5, Phil. 2:12 along with 2 Cor. 7:9-16.



9. **Living in Love and Light.** What do you learn about authentic repentance from this passage? Is your understanding about repentance reflected in your description of being a Christian (#2)? Consider updating that if need be.

Lesson Eleven Day Four

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: Giving God's Way

- ☐ Pause & Pray.
- ☐ Memorize & Meditate.
- ☐ Simply Read: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15 and Matthew 6:1-34
- ☐ Write the Word: Write today's passage.

...Read & Engage...

1. **Tough Topic in Tense Times.** Imagine Paul asks you if you think he should bring up the topic of giving with the Corinthians in this letter. Considering the tense nature of much of Paul's epistles to the Corinthians – the admonition, correction, bold scolding, tears, grieving, etc., what would your advice to Paul be on this topic?

Would you be able to give the same advice to yourself? Why or why not?

2. **Modeling the Macedonians.** Jot down some information about the Macedonians and Paul's connection with them from this passage as well as other information you can gather about Macedonia. Consider the following: Acts 16:9-12; 18:5, 19:21-29, 20:1-3; Romans 15:26; 1 Cor. 16:5; 2 Cor. 2:13.

3. **Profile of a Christian Giver.** How does Paul's description of the church in Macedonia surprise or encourage you in your own mindset about giving? Especially consider 8:3-6.

4. **Excel in Everything.** How have the Corinthians excelled? What does Paul ask that they also excel in? (8:7-8)

Lesson Eleven Day Four

5. **Christ's Example.** What riches did Christ have? How did He become poor? What about you? How were you poor but have now become rich? (8:9)

Don't

6. **Just Do It.** How does Paul describe the growth he has seen in the Corinthians over the past year? What does he urge them to do? (8:10-11)

7. **Socialism, communism, or something else?** What is Paul advocating when he says there should be "equality"? Compare translations for clarity and don't forget the context! How would living out God's intent in this look in your church today? (8:12-14)

8. **Scripture Interprets Scripture.** Why does Paul quote Exodus 16:18? What big truth do you see in this passage relating to God satisfying our needs?

9. **Gracious Giving.** Write several points from Matthew 6 that relate to giving and connect those to any point Paul makes in today's passage:



10. **Living in Love & Light.** Televangelists and false teachers have given Christian giving a terrible reputation. What would you say to a Christian friend who is reluctant to give to her church because of a bad experience in the past with unbiblical giving?

Lesson Eleven Day Five

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: The Place for Proving Your Love

- ☐ Pause & Pray.
- ☐ Memorize & Meditate.
- ☐ Simply Read: 2 Corinthians 8:16-24
- ☐ Write the Word: Write today's passage.

...Read & Engage...

1. **Look What God has Done!** What does Paul recognize in 8:16 that God has done?

What does this teach you about the nature of God and how He works in the lives of believers?

2. **Ministry Together.** What can you learn from Paul's description of Titus and this "famous" brother especially as it relates to the importance of the people you do ministry with? What are some specific ways Paul has described Titus?

3. **Above Reproach.** What does this passage tell you about Paul's earnest heart and integrity in ministry especially around the sensitive subject of money?

Lesson Eleven Day Five

4. **Three Men and an Offering.** Who are the three men (named or unnamed) in ministry that Paul references in his letter, and what are they doing together? What can you infer about these men based on this passage? Why do you think there are three men - not just one or two - carrying this gift?

5. **A Principle from Proverbs.** Read Proverbs 3:4 and compare this to 2 Cor. 8:21. How is this a principle that can apply to Paul's message in this passage? How does it apply to your own life today?

6. **Grace and Giving.** What does grace have to do with giving? What does giving look like when it isn't accompanied by grace? Consider 2 Cor. 8:4, 7-9, and 19 and the many ways Paul describes giving. Compare translations for more clarity:

7. **The Place for Proof.** How does Paul expect the Corinthians to respond to the men on their way? What will this prove?



8. **Living in Love & Light.** What characteristics would make a charitable Christian organization trustworthy? What should we look for in an organization when we are considering giving financially?

Lesson Eleven Day Six

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: Godly Comparison Leads to Holy Living

- ☐ Pause & Pray:
- ☐ Memorize & Meditate:
- ☐ Simply Read: 2 Corinthians 9:1-5
- ☐ Write the Word: Write today's passage.

...Read & Engage...

1. **Review.** What is the "ministry/service" Paul is referring to in 9:1? Consider 1 Cor. 16:3, Romans 15:25-26, along with the context of chapter 8.
2. **Motivating the Macedonians.** How does Paul describe the impact the word about the Corinthians had on the church in Macedonia? (9:2 also, 8:10-11)
3. **Thief of Joy or Jolt for the Spirit?** It has been said that "comparison is the thief of joy" How has comparing the Corinthians to the Macedonians been of benefit and not a thief? Why is Paul's use of comparison a good motivator and not stirring up of envy or jealousy? Read Paul's comments in 9:1-2 and think also about what Paul had said about the Macedonians in 8:1-7 as you consider this:

Lesson Eleven Day Six

4. **Stirring Up the Right Things.** Read Hebrews 10:24. How does seeing the life of other Christians move you toward living more for Christ?
5. **Paul's Promise.** What promise had Paul made about the Corinthians? Why? (9:3)
6. **Paul's Concern.** How is Paul's genuine concern an example to you of being earnest with other believers in your expectations for them? Consider Paul's plain speaking in 9:4 and what this says about his boldness as well as his expectations.
7. **Great Expectations, Not Exactions.** What truths for the church can you see in this simple statement of Paul's in 9:5? What does Paul want to make sure doesn't happen concerning giving? Consider also what Paul had written in 1 Cor. 16:2.
8. **Living in Love & Light.** How are the examples of generosity, faith, or boldness that you see in the lives of your Christian friends a motivator to you? How do you avoid letting that comparison turn into jealousy or bitterness?



Lesson Eleven Day Seven

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: God Loves a Cheerful Giver

- ☐ Pause & Pray:
- ☐ Memorize & Meditate:
- ☐ Simply Read: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15
- ☐ Write the Word: Write today's passage.

...Read & Engage...

1. **Proverbs and Principles for Giving.** What do the following teach about giving and living God's way?

Proverbs 11:24-25

Malachi 3:10-12

Luke 6:38

Galatians 6:7

2. **Paul's Point.** What is Paul urging the Corinthians in 9:6 and how does this connect to what he's been saying about giving in 8:1-9:5?

Lesson Eleven 🌿 Day Seven

3. **Motive Matters.** Review 2 Cor. 9:5 as you consider the command of 9:7. What is God's command when it comes to giving? What do we learn about God's nature in this verse?

IT'S GREEK TO ME



ἰλαρός

"hil-ar-os"

Definition: cheerful, joyous, not grudging

The Greek word gives us our English word: hilarious.

4. **God Can and God Will.** What is God's ability and willingness in our lives? What is His expectation of us? What is the promise? (9:8-9)

5. **The Faith of the Righteous.** Read Psalm 112:6-9. Why do you think Paul quotes from this Psalm in the context of this epistle? What is an especially encouraging truth from this passage for you today?

6. **Supply, Increase, Enlargement.** What is the purpose of God increasing your supply of "seed?" What is God's promise to generous givers? (9:10-11)

7. **Giving Grows our Thanksgiving.** Why should our giving increase our thanksgiving? How does Paul describe God's gifts? (9:12-15)



8. **Living in Love & Light.** How has giving been easy for you or difficult for you in different seasons of your life? How is it for you now? What areas of growth do you need to pray for in the area of giving?

Lesson Eleven Day Eight

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: Going to Battle for the Right Cause

- ☐ Pause & Pray:
- ☐ Memorize & Meditate:
- ☐ Simply Read: 2 Corinthians 10:1-12
- ☐ Write the Word: Write today's passage.

...Read & Engage...

1. **Paul's Christlike Example.** Note the different ways Paul describes himself in this passage. How does he exemplify Christ?
.....
2. **Power in Weakness.** How do the Corinthians apparently imagine Paul to be in person? What does Paul warn them he will do when he comes? Read this passage from the NIV also to help see the irony in Paul's wording since the NIV uses quotes around "timid" and "bold" to emphasize what was being said about him.
.....

Reminder: What had Paul said he would do - if need be - in 2 Cor. 4:21?
.....
3. **"Don't me come back there!" -Every Dad to every kid ever.** How many of us remember our mom or dad warning, "Don't make me come back there!" or something along those lines? When a parent took that tone, we knew they were not messing around. Review 1 Corinthians 4:15. What role did Paul see himself with the Corinthians? What does this tell you about his sincerity and commitment to them?
.....
4. **Weapons of Spiritual Warfare.** Note the language of warfare in this passage, from the simplest terms to the boldest of words. Specifically how does Paul describe himself being equipped? (10:3-7)
.....

Lesson Eleven Day Eight

5. Accusers in the Church. What is Paul being accused of? By whom? Some of the references imply an accusation, some state it clearly.

1:17

5:13

6:13

7:2, 13:16

10:1, 13:1

10:2

10:10

13:6

6. The Result of Spiritual Warfare. How does Paul describe the end result of his all-out war against the false accusations? Note any wording in this passage that speaks to this:

What does this tell you about Paul's confidence?

7. The Cause worth Battling For. What is Paul's cause? For whom is he willing to go to "war?" Consider 2 Cor. 10:5.

8. Paul's Authority. Where does Paul get his authority? How does he use it? (10:7-8) Should leaders in the church exercise authority with the same confidence of Paul?

9. Comparison with Christ or Others? What point is Paul making in 10:12 about those who are making comparisons?



10. Living in Love & Light. How has living with laser focus on the message of the gospel impacted Paul and the way he engages with the church? How would it change your life today if you had that same focus? How are you equipped to defend the cause of Christ?

Lesson Eleven Day Nine

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: Our Sphere of Influence

- ☐ Pause & Pray:
- ☐ Memorize & Meditate:
- ☐ Simply Read: 2 Corinthians 10:13-18
- ☐ Write the Word: Write today's passage.

...Read & Engage...

1. **Our Appointed Work.** What limits does Paul have on his boasting? Why? (10:13) Read this verse and compare several translations. Write

2. **Paul's Territory.** Some jobs you clock into a set place, others have a territory. How does Paul describe the "job" that God assigned him? Why is this an important point for him to make in light of the accusations he was facing?

3. **The Power of Focus.** What has been the consistent, unswerving focus of Paul's life and mission? Review 1 Corinthians 1:26-2:5.

What has been the consistent, unswerving cry of Paul's heart for believers from the beginning of 1 Corinthians to this point now in 2 Corinthians?

Lesson Eleven Day Nine

4. **Let Scripture Interpret Scripture.** Read Jeremiah 9:23-24. What does the wise person do?

Review and connect 1 Cor. 1:31 and 2 Cor 10:17 - What parallel does Paul see between the destruction of Jerusalem and what is going on in the Corinthian church? In both passages what is the point of our boasting?

5. **Your Area of Influence.** What work has God appointed to you? What is your area of influence? Do you have one? Consider your current job, role, or season in life. Think about your spiritual gifts - look back to the results of the Spiritual Gifts test from Lesson 5. You can access that test here: <https://www.jennifergrichmond.com/dwellingrichly-corinthians/> Consider your responses to questions 1, 5, and 7 in Lesson 10/Day 8.

6. **The Commendation that Matters.** (10:17) Whose commendation matters? _____ Why is it so easy to desire the commendation of others?

What would be a biblical remedy for that?



7. **Living in Love & Light on the Battlefield?** In 2 Cor. 10:3-6 Paul enthusiastically described the realities of taking on the world we live in and their wrong thoughts, accusations, commending and overextending themselves. It's pleasant to see ourselves living in "love and light" but Paul intensifies this with the battle imagery because the stakes are too high and we are truly well-equipped. How can you resolve today to be battle ready for the cause of Christ as you live your calling the sphere of influence God has given you?

Lesson Eleven Day Ten

Memorize & Meditate

Create & Share

Our usual Day Ten involves creating something inspired by the passage we've studied and sharing it in some way.

This week you'll simply...

Give.

Give bountifully.

Give with the mindset of a warrior equipping other warriors to battle effectively for the cause of Christ.

Give.

Give in faith.

Give with confidence that God has heard your prayers and will use what He has already given you to bless the church.

Give.

Give hilariously.

Give with so much freedom and joy that you feel giddy and enthusiastic at the thought of what God is going to accomplish with it.

Give.

Just give.

And like Paul we'll all say together,
Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!



If you give regularly to your church, consider giving a special gift over and above - perhaps to support missions or a benevolence fund. Pray and ask God to help you sow bountifully with a cheerful heart trusting that He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness.



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"Let the Word of Christ
dwell in you richly."

Colossians 3:16