

## II Cor 12:14-21 outline

### Context:

Attacked, ministry diminished, accusations which resulted in deep pain as Paul ministered to the Corinthian people. This can be seen in chapters 1, 4, 6, 10, 11, 12 and even in the last chapter, 13.

Recurring theme- his love for the Corinthian people.

What caused all this mess? False teachers had infiltrated into the church and were maliciously spreading lies about Paul and his companions.

### Characteristics of false teachers:

selfish, abusive, take advantage of others, master manipulators, after other people's money, operate in secret, create division, throw dirt at Christ's people, lie, opportunist, fabricate their own message.

### Characteristics of Paul:

Humble, honest, Godly, others cantered.

### Vs 14

"Now *for* the third time I am ready to come to you. And I will not be burdensome to you; for I do not seek yours, but you."

### "3rd time"

Acts 18 was his first time

II Cor 2 was his second time

II Cor 12 was his third time

"I will not be a burden to you." In other words, "I don't want anything from you, not your money nor your possessions." Why is Paul this way? Paul has a heart for God's people.

"For the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children." Paul is saying that he is the Corinthians' spiritual parent and wants nothing more than to see them be Godly.

### Vs 15

"And I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls." Thrilled to help them in their walk with Christ. "Though the more abundantly I love you, the less I am loved." Instead of being loved more, he was loved less.

### Vs 16

"Be that as it may". In other words, it doesn't matter, I will still be there for you. Why? Refused to listen to the Devil and focused on God and the task at hand. Paul also being snarky.

### Vs 17

"Did I take advantage of you by any of those whom I sent to you?" Paul points out the fact that there is no record or evidence that this was the case.

### Vs 18

"I urged Titus and sent our brother with him. Did Titus take advantage of you? Did we not walk in the same spirit? Did we not walk in the same steps?" False teachers accused Paul, Titus and another brother of not being God led. What a mess! Paul did nothing to deserve this and yet he suffers.

2 kinds of suffering: I Peter 2:20, Godly and selfish sinning. Life is full of pain and suffering, that's life. True for Paul, true for us.

Vs 19

“Again, do you think that we excuse ourselves to you? We speak before God in Christ. But we do all things beloved, for your edification.” Everything out of love. Why? Because the Corinthians matter to God. You and I matter to God as well.

Vs 20-21

Key word is repent. Repent of the lifestyle that is not pleasing to God.