

## 2 Corinthians 3

1. Are there many false teachers in this world?

-Yes.

2. Why do false teachers teach?

-Some teach so that you can give your money to them.

-Some teach so that they will have power over the people they teach so that the people will follow them.

3. How do we know if a teacher is a true teacher from God?

-A true teacher will treat others with respect and honesty.

-A true teacher will not make himself more important than others, but rather serve those whom they teach.

-A true teacher will not rely on his own worldly wisdom, but rather on the grace of God.

4. What is a simple difference between a false teacher and a true teacher?

-A false teacher wants you to depend on him, but a true teacher wants you to depend on God.

5. When we make our plans to do something, what must we understand?

-That God may change our plans.

6. When we make our plans, what should we say?

-“If the Lord is willing,” or “If it is the Lord’s will.”

7. Although the world and people are constantly

changing, what never changes?

-God and His Word never change.

-This is because God and His Word are the same.

8. What is our work as Christians to be able to stand strong in Christ?

-To ask our God and to allow our God to be our strength.

9. What are three meanings for being anointed?

-That people are chosen by God.

-That people are protected by God.

-That people have God as their strength.

10. When there are problems in the church, what does God want us to do?

-We should talk with other Christians, but we must also pray and ask God to help us to solve the problems.

11. Is it wrong to confront sin or talk about other people’s sin?

-No, for if sin is not resolved, then it will continue to hurt.

12. What is important to understand when sin is confronted or talked about?

-We must understand that the purpose of confronting sin or talking about another’s sin is to build people up and not to tear them down.

13. After a punishment or a correction for sin, what is the best for the one who was punished or corrected?

-If the person has admitted his guilt and has repented, then he or she should be forgiven and comforted.

14. What is one of the biggest problems in the church?

-A lack of forgiveness.

-On Paul's third missionary journey, he taught in Ephesus for three years.

-It was while Paul was teaching in Ephesus that God through him wrote 1 Corinthians.

-At the end of Paul's time in Ephesus, there was a riot in the city, after which Paul left for Macedonia (Acts 20:1).

-On the way to Macedonia, Paul stopped off in Troas.

Let's read 2 Corinthians 2:12

12-Now when I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the Lord had opened a door for me.

-In Troas, Paul taught the gospel of Christ, for "the Lord had opened a door for me."

-What does it mean that "the Lord had opened a door"?

-It means that God had prepared the hearts of the people in Troas.

-No human heart is naturally prepared for the Gospel.

-God must open the door or prepare the hearts of the people.

-If God does not prepare the hearts of the people, will they be open to listening to God's Word?

-No.

-This is why we must pray before we teach and pray as we teach so that God will open the hearts of the people to listen to His Word.

-In Troas, Paul also hoped to meet Titus.

-Why was Paul hoping to meet Titus in Troas?

-Because Paul wanted to hear how the church in Corinth was doing.

-Because Paul wanted to know how the church in Corinth had received the letters he wrote to them.

-When Paul did not find Titus in Troas, he continued on to Macedonia.

Let's read 2 Corinthians 2:13

13-I still had no peace of mind, because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I said goodbye to them and went on to Macedonia.

-Even though Paul was an apostle, he was human just like all of us.

-There were many problems and errors in the church at Corinth, and Paul was discouraged.

-When we look at all that is wrong in life, is it easy to become discouraged?

-Yes.

-When we look at people and their problems, is it easy to become discouraged?

-Yes.

-Paul was also discouraged, yet all of a sudden, there was a big change in Paul.

Let's read 2 Corinthians 2:14

14-But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere.

-In 2 Corinthians 2:14, what was the sudden, big change in Paul?

-Instead of being discouraged, Paul became encouraged.

-Why was Paul suddenly encouraged?

-Instead of thinking about his problems, Paul changed

and began to think about God and God's work in his life.

-When we are discouraged with life, our discouragement will change to encouragement if we begin to think about God and God's work in our lives.

-Even if we have many problems in life, it is the Lord Jesus who leads us.

-Like a conquering general of an army, the Lord Jesus leads us in His parade of victory over sin and evil.

-We have won the victory because of Christ, and God uses us to tell others of the Lord Jesus' victory over sin and evil.

Let's read 2 Corinthians 2:15-16a

15-For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.

16-To the one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life.

-Our work and our lives alongside of Christ are a pleasing aroma to our God.

-To those who believe in Christ, we are a sweet smell of life eternal.

-To those who do not believe in Christ, they are a rotten

smell of death for they have rejected the Lord Jesus.

Let's read 2 Corinthians 2:16b-17

16-And who is equal to such a task?

17-Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, as those sent from God.

-As Christians, we are not able to do this work, except that Christ leads us and works through us.

-Many people take the Word of God and try and make money from it, but this is wrong.

-A true Christian, however, does not teach about God because they want to gain money or power.

-A true Christian teaches others about Christ because we want to give of ourselves.

-As true Christians, we have the heart of Christ in us which does not want anyone to die in hell, but rather that they would gain eternal life with God Himself.

Let's read 2 Corinthians 3:1

1-Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, like some people, letters of recommendation to you or from you?

-A true teacher of the Word of God does not need a letter of recommendation.

-A true teacher of the Word of God will be known as someone who only teaches the truths of the Bible, and all who listen will know this.

-The only letter that a true teacher of God needs is his heart to teach others about God and Christ.

Let's read 2 Corinthians 3:2-3

2-You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everyone.

3-You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

-As with the Corinthian Christians, our faith should be a letter written on all of our hearts.

-While the Law of Moses was written on tablets of stone, we Christians have the Holy Spirit written on our hearts.

-As is written in Ezekiel 36:26:

“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.”