



Real Life Ministry ~ 2 Corinthians 1:12-2:4
February 1, 2026

next week: 2 Corinthians 2:5-11

Questions for the Community

What does the Bible say? (goal: go slow, notice the text, let God speak for Himself in the words of His book)

1. Read our passage out loud, together. What words/ideas stand out?
2. What are the accusations being made and how does Paul respond? What evidence does he point to for his answer?
3. Where is Paul directing the Corinthians' attention when confusion and disappointment arise?
4. What is being said about God? What is being said about people?

What does it mean? (goal: get to the heart of the text by understanding what Paul is teaching then and how it relates to now)

5. Why do you think life's unpredictability often leads to suspicion, frustration, or misunderstanding in relationships? How is conscience and sincerity a help for Paul as he ministers?
6. What does it look like to view a situation through a "small" perspective versus a "big" one? How does keeping the 3 "grand views" (discussed on Sunday) reshape how we process disappointment today?
7. What does it practically mean that in Jesus, God is not "Yes and No," but always "Yes"?
8. How does the gospel provide stability when plans change or correction is required?
9. How do the ideas of being anointed, sealed, and guaranteed by the Spirit shape our identity as ministers?

What do I do? (goal: move from understanding to faithful, obedient lived response; this is sometimes plain and sometimes requires listening in prayer)

10. When plans change in your life, what assumptions do you usually make about God or others?
11. Where might God be inviting you to correct your perspective right now?
12. How can you practice extending grace instead of suspicion when people disappoint you?
13. What is one area where you need to correct your answer and live more fully out of God's YES instead of defaulting to "no," fear, or resignation?
14. How can unpredictability in your life become an opportunity for ministry rather than frustration?
15. What is one concrete step you can take this week to trust God's faithfulness when life requires correction?