



Real Life Ministry ~ 2 Corinthians 6:1-10
April 26, 2026

next week: 2 Corinthians 6:11-18

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. There's a lot here in the first half of this chapter. What most clearly shows that ministry is both amazing and hard?
2. What does Paul mean when he says believers are "working together with him"?
3. In verses 3–4, what does Paul say he tries to avoid putting in anyone's way? (see also 1 Corinthians 8:13 for his own explanation of this)
4. List the graces/resources Paul names in verses 6–7. What does God provide or produce his people in the fire?
5. What tensions or paradoxes (exercise band) do you see in verses 8–10? Example: "sorrowful, yet always rejoicing."

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)

6. What mountain top vistas do you see in this letter so far? Why is life in Christ so fantastic despite all the difficulties you sign up for with Him?
7. Why is it important that Christians are not just working **for** God, but **with** God? What is the difference?
8. Paul introduces real Christianity to the Corinthians "in every way" (vs. 4) then lists all the hard things. What lessons do you take from this?
9. How does this passage challenge the idea that faithful ministry should always look successful, easy, or impressive?
10. How can joy and sorrow exist in the same Christian life without canceling each other out?

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

11. Where are you currently experiencing the "fire" of life in Christ: something amazing, something painful, or both?
12. What would it look like for you to embrace this moment instead of waiting for an easier one?
13. Where are you tempted to lose heart in ministry, evangelism, serving, or following Jesus?
14. Is there any obstacle in your attitude, speech, habits, or methods that could be getting in the way of your witness? Who speaks into this for you?
15. How can you help make room at the "two tables" of church life through serving, inviting, attending, or encouraging others?