



Real Life Ministry ~ 2 Corinthians 10:7-18
July 12, 2026

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. According to 2 Corinthians 10:7-11, what accusations were being made against Paul, and how did he respond to them? What do his answers reveal about his confidence in Christ rather than in public opinion?
2. Paul says that his authority was given “for building you up and not for destroying you” (v.8). What does this teach us about the purpose of biblical leadership? How does this compare with the qualifications for leaders we looked at in 1 Timothy 3?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 10:12-18. What warnings does Paul give about comparison, self-promotion, and boasting? What warnings are there about knowing your assignments and going beyond the limits?

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)

4. Paul answered some attacks but ignored others. How does Proverbs 26:4-5 help us know when love requires silence and when love requires speaking the truth?
5. Paul refused to compare himself to other leaders because he knew his “area of influence” was assigned by God. What does it look like to know your “lane” today? How does Romans 12:3-8 help us think accurately about ourselves and our gifts?
6. On Sunday, we talked about comparison and distraction as “side attacks.” Why are these often more dangerous than direct opposition? How can social media, success, or other people’s gifts quietly kill joy and pull us away from the lane God has for us?
7. Paul’s confidence came from God’s approval rather than people’s applause (2 Cor. 10:18). Why is this so freeing? What changes when our identity is rooted in Christ instead of in the opinions of others?

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

8. Where do you most often experience attacks right now? Are they coming from outside criticism, or from inside struggles like comparison, insecurity, distraction, or overextending yourself? What biblical answer do you need to apply this week?
9. God has given every believer gifts and an area of influence. Where do you believe God has placed you to serve right now? Are you staying in your lane, trying to switch lanes, or ‘staying dry’ on the sidelines?
10. The challenge was “Put me in, Coach!” What is one practical step you can take this week to actively use your gifts?