

2 Corinthians Series: "Learning to Lean on God"

"Will the Real 'Super-Apostle' Please Stand Up?" David Owens

2 Corinthians 11:1-6

5.09.10

Introduction:

- A. In today's scripture section we want to notice Paul's _____ as an apostle.
- B. What was it that made him the _____, while his opponents were _____?
- C. Today we will be challenged to examine our own _____ as a follower of Jesus—how real is our _____?

I. Understanding the Word

- A. We will notice that Paul is going to have to do some things that are completely _____ to him - He is going to have to draw _____ to himself and _____ himself with others.
- B. Paul began by using a picture from Jewish _____ customs.
- C. This led Paul to draw upon another well-known theme - the temptation and rebellion of _____ in the _____.
- D. There were men in Corinth preaching their own _____ of Christianity and believed it was _____ to Paul's.
- E. Paul admitted that they may be better equipped _____ than he, but he knew what he was _____ about, and they did not.
- F. It appears that Paul never accepted _____ support from any church he was working with at the time.
- G. Paul's opponents made his _____ a charge against him.
- H. Paul leveled some of his harshest words against his opponents - ultimately concluding that they were in service to _____.
- I. Paul's greatest credential was the amount that he had _____ for Christ. (Acts 9:16)
- J. The crescendo of the passage is Paul's statement - "If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my _____."

II. Applying the Word

- A. We should beware of being drawn away to a different _____.
- B. We should be challenged by the extent to which Paul was willing to _____ to _____ the Lord.
- C. We should make our greatest boast our _____ for the Lord.

Answer Key: Intro. A. credentials. B. real, deal, imposters. C. authenticity, discipleship. I.A. distasteful, attention, compare. I.B. marriage. I.C. Eve, garden. I.D. version, superior. I.E. orators, talking. I.F. financial. I.G. independence. I.H. Satan. I.I. suffered. I.J. weakness. II.A. master. II.B. suffer, serve. II.C. need.