

2 Corinthians 1:12-22
March 10, 2024

PROP: Freely give yourself to others as you fiercely trust God.

[12] For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you. [13] For we are not writing to you anything other than what you read and understand and I hope you will fully understand— [14] just as you did partially understand us—that on the day of our Lord Jesus you will boast of us as we will boast of you.

[15] Because I was sure of this, I wanted to come to you first, so that you might have a second experience of grace. [16] I wanted to visit you on my way to Macedonia, and to come back to you from Macedonia and have you send me on my way to Judea. [17] Was I vacillating when I wanted to do this? Do I make my plans according to the flesh, ready to say “Yes, yes” and “No, no” at the same time? [18] As surely as God is faithful, our word to you has not been Yes and No. [19] For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes. [20] For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. [21] And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, [22] and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

2 Corinthians 1:12–22

How do we freely give ourselves to others and trust God?

1. By Being Graciously Forthright (2 Corinthians 1:12-13)

Are you tempted by Earthly Wisdom?

How do we freely give ourselves to others and trust God?

1. By Being Graciously Forthright (2 Corinthians 1:12-13)
2. By Being hopefully realistic (2 Corinthians 1:14-17)

“The Christian’s truest satisfaction, deepest consolation—authentic Christianity—is the well-being of the other.”

-Dane Ortlund

Are you hopefully realistic for others?

As long as people are following Jesus, there is hope for them.

How do we freely give ourselves to others and trust God?

1. By being graciously forthright (2 Corinthians 1:12-13)
2. By being hopefully realistic (2 Corinthians 1:14-17)
3. By being faithfully Godward (2 Corinthians 1:18-22)

“Non-Christians do not read the Bible; they read Christians. Because of this, the church’s mission is inevitably tied to its example.”

-Christopher Morgan

Are you more aware of what God has already done in others, or what they have done to you?
Are you asking your human relationships to provide what only God can?

How do we freely give ourselves to others AND trust God?

- By being graciously forthright
- By being hopefully realistic
- By being faithfully Godward.

We need others because we cannot be

- The Father
- The Mother
- The Husband
- The Wife
- The Employee
- The Grandfather
- The Grandmother
- The Friend
- The Christian

We are supposed to be without each other.

Is there someone here you need to mend a relationship with?

[19] And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

[20] To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Philippians 4:19–20