



You're Welcome Here!



12th January 2020

Study Guide – Lessons in Discipleship from 2 Corinthians

Study 2 – A Lesson about Christian Ministry

*By Christian Ministry we mean all that we do in serving God and His Kingdom: in the church and in the world; in words and in actions; in Jesus' Name and in the Spirit's power; using the gifting of the Spirit and in response to the call of God on our lives; as we love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and love our neighbour as ourselves. We share most of this description with the Apostle Paul and with each other (apart from our individual giftings and personalised callings) - so we can learn and apply a lot from Paul about Christian Ministry. Please read **1 Corinthians 12.4-7; Romans 12.6-8.***

Please read **2 Corinthians 3.1-3; 1 Corinthians 3.8-9**

1. Where there is evidence of godliness in a church or a person (seen in a change of heart and life in a godly direction) – the effect has not happened without a cause. How does Paul describe the reasons for the spiritual changes in the life of the Corinthian church?
2. Why is it important that we learn to grasp a proper sense of perspective (and significance) of our part in the work of God, in the church and in the world?
3. Given how difficult and messy the church situation was at Corinth, how does Paul's attitude encourage you in your more difficult ministry situations?

Please read **2 Corinthians 3.4-6**

4. If Paul's 'confidence' in his ministry is not cocky arrogance, what kind of confidence is it?
5. How has God made you competent to minister for Him in the church or in the world? – This question might be easier for you to answer for each other.
Take a moment to give God thanks for the various giftings and competences that He has given to us all.

Please read **2 Corinthians 3.7-9; Luke 4.18-19; 2 Corinthians 3.12-13**

6. How would you describe what the 'ministry of the Spirit' is? Is it a ministry that involves all Christians or just some?
7. Paul says that his confidence in the glory and hope of the ministry of the Spirit makes him very bold. Does it make you very bold? – why/ why not? What might more 'boldness' look like for you in your ministry?