

2 Corinthians

Lesson #6, Chapter 3:1-11

Read Chapter 3 before beginning this lesson. Take time to seek the Lord, asking Him for His help as you study His Word.

1. Trace Paul's train of thought for this paragraph (verses 1-11).
2. What thought links 2:14-17 to 3:1-11?
3. The Greek word for *commendation* here means "introduction." What is a letter of commendation/introduction and what is it used for?
4. What does Paul consider commendation enough (verses 2-3)?
5. What do you learn about being a *letter* (verses 2-3)?
6. Eager beaver: Look up Ex. 31:18; 32:15; Deut. 9:10-11; Jer. 31:33; Ezek. 11:19; 36:26. What do you learn from those verses?
7. What letter of introduction would you like to carry with you? What would it say?

8. As you think about the kind of woman you'd like to be known as, what do you need to begin, continue, or stop doing so those things could be true of you?

9. Where does the assurance of the truths that Paul writes about in verses 2-3 come from? See verse 4.

10. In verses 4-5, Paul contrasts his statements about being confident with his inadequacy. What is the common denominator between confidence and adequacy?

11. What do you observe about being adequate from verses 5-6? Define *adequate* (you already did this in the previous lesson, so you can peek at your answer if you'd like).

12. What task did God make Paul adequate to do (verse 6)?

13. The world speaks a great deal about self-sufficiency and self-confidence. Even our own flesh desires to have the acclaim from saying, "I did it myself," yet the Scriptures make it very clear that if we are to be adequate as servants, we must recognize that our sufficiency comes from God. What mindset must we cultivate? See 1 Cor. 15:10; Eph. 1:19; 2:10; Phil. 2:13; Col. 1:29; 2 Pet. 1:3.

14. Note the different names Paul uses to describe the Old and New Covenants in verses 6-18.

15. Contrast the Old and New Covenants from verses 6-18.

16. Compare the glory of the Old Covenant with the glory of the New Covenant.

17. What does the Holy Spirit do for the believer here in verses 1-11?

18. From 2:14-3:11 we read about the great privilege and responsibility the ministry is for Paul. From those verses, what do you see Paul finding comfort and refuge in knowing?

19. What truths found in this passage will be a help to you when life grows burdensome?

Love is the incense that makes all our services fragrant and acceptable to God.
– Thomas Watson

It is not our holding to God, but His holding to us that preserves us.
A little boat tied fast to a rock is safe, and so are we,
when we are tied to the “rock of ages.”
– Thomas Watson