

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for September 26, 2010

“A Heart Opened Wide”
2 Corinthians 6:11-13

Because of Paul’s “much endurance” suffered on behalf of the Corinthians, what should have been evident to them?

Because of Paul’s much endurance, it should have been evident to the Corinthians that Paul’s heart was wide open toward them (2 Corinthians 6:11).

Paul freely spoke to the Corinthians for the first time on his second missionary journey in AD 50 when he over a period of 18 months established the church at Corinth (Acts 18:1-17).

Paul, after establishing the church, continued to speak freely through hard-hitting letters interspersed with what has been called “the sorrowful visit” and alluded to in 2 Corinthians 2:1.

Because of Paul’s much endurance, it should have been evident to the Corinthians that if their affections were restrained in respect to Paul, it was their problem not his (2 Corinthians 6:12).

Because of Paul’s much endurance, it should have been evident to the Corinthians that if their relationship was going to be strengthened with Paul, they would have to open up their hearts wide to him (2 Corinthians 6:13).

The phrase “in a like exchange” literally means “in an exchange that is exact.”

Paul could refer to them as his “children,” because they were his spiritual children having come to faith in Christ through his faithful proclamation of the word of reconciliation (1 Corinthians 4:14-15).

May God by His grace open up our hearts wide to one another so that those who lead and those who follow will both be blessed, and the Lord will be glorified in His church.