

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for August 19, 2012**

**Paul's Final Appeal To The Unrepentant**  
**2 Corinthians 13:5-6**

How did Paul minister to the unrepentant among the Corinthians in his final appeal to them in 2 Corinthians 13:1-10?

He warned them (2 Corinthians 13:1-4).

He exhorted them (2 Corinthians 13:5-6).

Paul exhorted them to "test" themselves and to "examine" themselves.

Paul asked them to "test" and to "examine" themselves so that they might find the necessary proof to see that they were in fact "in the faith."

When Paul exhorted the Corinthians to "test" or "examine" themselves to see if they were in the faith, he was asking them to "test" or "examine" themselves to see if they were saved.

Paul, by following up his exhortation with the question, "Or do you not recognize that Christ is in you – unless indeed you fail the test?", was like a personal dare for them to follow through on his exhortation.

Paul hoped that by passing their test the Corinthians would recognize that he had passed his test and that Christ indeed was speaking in him since it was through his work as a true apostle of Christ that they had been saved.

Genuine saving faith will be marked by penitence or in other words an overflowing sense of sinfulness (Romans 7:24).

Genuine saving faith will be marked by righteousness (1 John 2:29 cf. 3:5-7,10).

Genuine saving faith will be marked by submission to divine authority (Luke 14:25-35).

Genuine saving faith will be marked by obedience (John 14:15, 23-24; cf. 15:10).

Genuine saving faith will be marked by love of the brethren (1 John 4:7-11).

May God give us the grace to live our lives in such a way that we will know that we in fact are children of God and have been saved by grace through faith.