

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for September 16, 2012

Apostolic Optimism
2 Corinthians 13:11-14

What are the three major components of Paul's optimistic conclusion?

The first major component of Paul's conclusion is closing admonitions (2 Corinthians 13:11).

The first admonition was "rejoice."

Based on 2 Corinthians 13:9, when Paul admonished the Corinthians to rejoice, he was in essence calling them to manifest their unity with him by joining him in rejoicing over the strength they themselves derived through his weakness.

The second admonition was "be made complete."

Based on 2 Corinthians 13:9 when Paul admonished the Corinthians to be "made complete," he was calling them in essence to respond to his prayer which required them to embrace him and the lifestyle consistent with his message.

The third admonition was "be comforted."

The fourth admonition was "be like-minded."

The fifth admonition was to "live in peace."

The second major component is "greetings" (2 Corinthians 13:12-13).

The first greeting was a local greeting (2 Corinthians 13:12).

The second greeting was a universal greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13).

The third major component is the "benediction" (2 Corinthians 13:14).

Knowing the power of the gospel may we by God's grace remain enduringly optimistic when seeking to restore sinning brothers and sisters in Christ.