

HANDOUT 10/30/2022

Application of Principles of True Ministry

**2 Corinthians 12:11-21 (NASB)**

1. ***11 I have become foolish; you yourselves compelled me. Actually, I should have been commended by you, for in no respect was I inferior to the most eminent apostles, even though I am a nobody.***  
: It is proper for believers to uphold the ministry of a proven man.
  
2. ***13 For in what respect were you treated as inferior to the rest of the churches, except that I myself did not become a burden to you? Forgive me this wrong!***  
***14 Here for this third time I am ready to come to you, and I will not be a burden to you; for I do not seek what is yours, but you; for children are not responsible to save up for their parents, but parents for their children.***  
: True ministers do not seek or pursue what a believer has, rather he pursues the believer.
  
3. ***15 I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls. If I love you more, am I to be loved less?***  
: True ministers spend themselves for the benefit of the believers. Mark 10:45
  
4. ***17 Certainly I have not taken advantage of you through any of those whom I have sent to you, have I?***  
***18 I urged Titus to go, and I sent the brother with him. Titus did not take any advantage of you, did he? Did we not conduct ourselves in the same spirit and walk in the same steps?***  
: True ministers do not defraud their ministry and are careful that those he serves do not defraud.
  
5. ***19 All this time you have been thinking that we are defending ourselves to you. Actually, it is in the sight of God that we have been speaking in Christ; and all for your upbuilding, beloved.***  
: True ministers always edify with a view to growth. Not for the defense of themselves but will what they do be for the edification of believers.
  
6. ***20 For I am afraid that perhaps when I come I may find you to be not what I wish and may be found by you to be not what you wish; that perhaps there will be strife, jealousy, angry tempers, disputes, slanders, gossip, arrogance, disturbances;***  
***21 I am afraid that when I come again my God may humiliate me before you, and I may mourn over many of those who have sinned in the past and not repented of the impurity, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced.***  
: True ministers encourage other positive ministries. All ministry is hampered by sin so the true minister encourages repentance. Merryman