

## Paul's Defense of His Ministry - 2 Corinthians 10:1-18

**Topics:** Armor, Confidence, Gentleness, Obedience, Power, Pride, War, Work, World

### Open It

1. What is it like to have people talk about you behind your back?
- \* 2. When have you ever had to defend your actions to another person?

### Explore It

3. What was the source of Paul's authority and influence over others? (10:1)
- \* 4. Of what did Paul's opponents accuse him? (10:2)
5. How did the spiritual warfare that Paul fought, and the spiritual weapons that he used, differ from ordinary warfare and weapons? (10:3-4)
6. What did Paul want to demolish? How? (10:4-6)
7. What did Paul take captive? (10:5)
- \* 8. How were Paul's opponents generating their misguided ideas? (10:7)
9. Why was Paul not ashamed of boasting about the Corinthians? (10:8)
10. Why would Paul's opponents try to convince the Corinthians that Paul was unimpressive in person? (10:10)
11. How did Paul respond to the accusations against him? (10:11)
- \* 12. Why was Paul justified in boasting, whereas his opponents were not? (10:13-16)
13. What would enable Paul to expand the area in which he could preach the gospel? (10:16)
14. In what did Paul's opponents pride themselves? (10:16)
15. Why did Paul endorse boasting in the Lord, but condemn all other forms of boasting? (10:18)

### Get It

16. In what way did Jesus exemplify meekness and gentleness?
17. How do Paul's actions and attitudes influence your ideas about ministry?
- \* 18. Why do people often look only on the surface of things?
19. How can looking only on the surface mislead us?
20. What surface judgments do you tend to make?
21. How does it feel when a person boasts or tries to take credit for work that someone else did?
22. Why does God want us to boast about Him and not about ourselves?
23. In what circumstances do you think it would be proper for a Christian to boast?
24. What spiritual weapons are available to you?
25. How can you better utilize the spiritual weapons that are available to you?
- \* 26. Why did Paul defend the truth?
27. What can we learn from Paul's concerns?

### Apply It

28. What is one specific way you can show the meekness and gentleness of Christ in one of your important relationships?
- \* 29. In what area of life do you need to defend the truth? How?