

Paul's Change of Plans - 2 Corinthians 1:12-2:4

Topics: Change, Confidence, Criticism, Faith, Love, Plans, Promises, Sincerity

Open It

1. How do you feel when someone postpones or cancels a social engagement that you were looking forward to?
- * 2. How do you go about letting friends know that you cannot keep your appointment with them?

Explore It

- * 3. How did Paul support his claim that he had been sincere with the Corinthians? (1:12)
4. What accusation from the Corinthians was Paul most likely responding to? (1:12-14)
5. Why did Paul say that the Corinthians could boast of him just as he would boast of them? (1:14)
6. Why had Paul planned to visit the Corinthian church? (1:15)
- * 7. Why did Paul change his travel plans? (1:15-16)
8. How did Paul's opponents at Corinth use his change of plans against him? (1:17)
9. What is the chief feature of God's promises? (1:18-22)
10. How did Paul explain how reliable his words were? (1:18-23)
11. What did Paul emphasize to strengthen his self-defense? (1:22)
12. How does God's Spirit act as a deposit? (1:22)
13. What is guaranteed to come? (1:22)
- * 14. Why did Paul decide not to return to Corinth? (1:23)
15. What was Paul's main purpose in working with the Corinthian church? (1:24)
16. What were Paul's visits to Corinth like? (2:1)
17. Why did Paul write about his distress and anguish? (2:4)

Get It

- * 18. In light of Paul's experience, how should you seek to discern God's will for your daily plans?
19. When might it be necessary to question the actions of a Christian leader?
20. When is it wrong to accuse another believer?
21. When have you ever made plans without consulting God?
22. How can we ensure that our lives send out a sincere and consistent message of commitment to Christ?
23. What difference does it make that God puts His Spirit in every Christian's heart?
24. Why do you think Paul's visits to Corinth were painful?
25. In what circumstances might it be necessary to make a "painful visit" to another believer?
- * 26. How can we demonstrate love for other Christians?

Apply It

- * 27. How can you remind yourself to listen to the Holy Spirit's guidance and direction in your daily life?
28. What is one interpersonal conflict that you need to try to work out this week?