Forgiveness for the Sinner - 2 Corinthians 2:5-11

Topics: Forgiveness, Grief, Love, Punishment, Restoration, Satan, Sin, Sorrow

Open It

* 1. When is it most difficult to forgive someone?
2. How could a friendship be ruined by an unforgiving spirit?
3. What is it like to experience God's forgiveness?

Explore It

4. What situation is Paul responding to in this passage? (2:5)
5. What did Paul mean when he said that the sinner in the Corinthian church had hurt all of the Corinthians? (2:5)
* 6. How did the Corinthians finally respond to the person who hurt Paul? (2:6)
7. What was the man's reaction to the Corinthian's discipline? (2:7)
* 8. What advice did Paul give the Corinthians regarding the man who had sinned? (2:7-8)
9. How were the Corinthians to reaffirm their love for the man they disciplined? (2:8)
10. Why did Paul write to the Corinthians? (2:9)
* 11. Why was it important that the Corinthians forgive the man whom they disciplined? (2:10-11)
12. In what way can Satan outwit us? (2:10-11)
13. What danger did Paul want to avoid? (2:11)
14. What were the Corinthian Christians not naive about? (2:11)

Get It

15. When was a time you learned of a church disciplining a member?
16. What results ideally follow from church discipline?
17. What is the difference between discipline and punishment?
* 18. Why do you think many churches neglect to discipline wayward members?
19. In what ways are Christians aware of Satan's schemes?
* 20. How does Satan take advantage of our refusal to forgive each other?
21. For whose benefit should we forgive others?
22. What does Paul's example tell us about the role older Christians should play in the lives of younger believers?
23. When have you ever grieved a fellow Christian?
24. What should you do if you feel wronged by another person?

Apply It

* 25. What is the first step you should take this week to forgive and reaffirm your love for someone who has sinned against you?
26. How do you plan to seek forgiveness the next time you wrong someone?