Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians

# FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere.

2 Cor 2:14

### **Class Time**

- Prayer Requests
- Scripture Reading 2 Corinthians 2:5-17
- Summary Statement
- Background
- Outline & Lesson

### 2 Corinthians 2:5-17 (ESV)

<sup>5</sup> Now if anyone has caused pain, he has caused it not to me, but in some measure—not to put it too severely—to all of you. <sup>6</sup> For such a one, this punishment by the majority is enough, <sup>7</sup> so you should rather turn to forgive and comfort him, or he may be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. 8 So I beg you to reaffirm your love for him. 9 For this is why I wrote, that I might test you and know whether you are obedient in everything. <sup>10</sup> Anyone whom you forgive, I also forgive. Indeed, what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ, <sup>11</sup> so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.

# 2 Corinthians 2:5–17 (ESV) (continued)

<sup>12</sup> When I came to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ, even though a door was opened for me in the Lord, <sup>13</sup> my spirit was not at rest because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I took leave of them and went on to Macedonia.

<sup>14</sup> But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. <sup>15</sup> For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, <sup>16</sup> to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? <sup>17</sup> For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

Paul writes the Corinthians that the church discipline imposed on a now-repentant church member is sufficient, and they need to forgive and comfort him to prevent Satan using it to cause trouble. He goes on to recount how, even though he had an open door for ministry in Troas, his concern for Titus and the state of the Corinthian church moved him to go on into Macedonia. Because of his great joy at finally meeting up with Titus, Paul gives thanks to God for his sufficiency which he likens to being led in a triumphal procession as an apostle commissioned by God.











# The Sufficiency of God – 2 Cor 2:5-17

# 1. ????? vv5-11

- A. The pain of sin v5
- B. The purpose of discipline vv6-8
- C. The reason for writing vv9-11
  - 1. To test the Corinthians v9
  - 2. To benefit the Corinthians v10
  - 3. To hinder the devil 1 Pet 5:8

# II. ????? vv12-13

- A. An attractive open door v12
- B. A providential leading v13

# III. ????? vv14-17

- A. A triumphal procession v14
- B. The aroma of Christ v15-16a
  - 1. To those being saved
  - 2. To those who are perishing
- C. A rhetorical question v16b
- D. A commissioned ministry v17

### The Sufficiency of God – 2 Cor 2:5-17

- I. A Forgiven Sinner Restored vv5-11 See 2 Cor 7:11
  - A. The pain of sin v5
  - B. The purpose of discipline vv6-8
  - C. The reason for writing vv9-11
    - 1. To test the Corinthians v9
    - 2. To benefit the Corinthians v10
    - 3. To hinder the devil 1 Pet 5:8

### II. An Open Door Closed vv12-13

- A. An attractive open door v12
- B. A providential leading v13

### III. The Knowledge of God Spread vv14-17

- A. A triumphal procession v14
- B. The aroma of Christ v15-16a
  - 1. To those being saved
  - 2. To those who are perishing
- C. A rhetorical question v16b
- D. A commissioned ministry v17