

Home Group Helps

2 Corinthians 6:11-13; 7:2-4

Heart Evidence

Ten Heart-Evidences of Love:

- I. **Open Honesty (v.11)** - Our mouth has spoken freely to you, O Corinthians, our heart is opened wide.
 - II. **Genuine Affection (v. 12)** - You are not restrained by us, but you are restrained in your own affections.
 - III. **United Community (v.13, 7:2a)** - Now in a like exchange-- I speak as to children-- open wide *to us* also . . . ^{7:2} Make room for us *in your hearts*;
 - IV. **Consistent Fairness (v.7:2b)** - we wronged no one, we corrupted no one,
 - V. **Honest Dealing (v.7:2c)** - we took advantage of no one.
 - VI. **Acceptance of Faults (v.7:3a)** – ³ I do not speak to condemn you,
 - VII. **Loyal Commitment (v.7:3b)** – for I have said before that you are in our hearts to die together and to live together.
 - VIII. **Confidence in God’s Work in Others (v.7:4a)** – Great is my confidence in you
 - IX. **Appropriate Boasting (v.7:4b)** - great is my boasting on your behalf
 - X. **Determined Joy (v.7:4c)** - I am filled with comfort; I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction.
-

1. Launching Question(s):

- Describe one of your favorite Valentine’s Day memories.

2. Observation Question(s):

- In vs. **6:11**, Paul declares, “Our mouth has spoken freely to you, O Corinthians, our heart is opened wide.”
- Jesus said that the mouth, “speaks out of that which fills the heart” (**Matt. 12:34**).
- Paul told the Ephesian elders that, “I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God” (**Acts 20:27**).
- Knowing these things, what should open honest speech look like in the church?
- Why is it important?

3. Interpretation Question(s):

- Paul says that he has great confidence in the Corinthian believers (v.7:4a) yet they were the most dysfunctional of all of the churches.
- Read Acts 18:8-11 and 1 Cor. 13:7.
- How do these verses shed light on why Paul might have “great confidence” in the Corinthians?

4. Reflection Question & Application Question(s):

- The sermon highlighted some examples of Christians who, like Paul, provided heart evidence of their love toward others (St. Valentine, Gen. Charles Gordon, Moravian Missionaries, etc.).
- Can you add to the list?
- What might you do to be on the list yourself?