



## "PREPARING FOR A THIRD VISIT"

2 Corinthians 12:11-13:4

- Have you ever had to prepare for a visit that you were afraid would turn out to be difficult and confrontive?
- "The reality of a church is seen in changed lives, and if there be no changed lives, then the essential element of reality is missing." – William Barclay

**VISIT 1** – A church is born. *Acts 18*

**VISIT 2** – A painful experience. *2 Corinthians 2:1*

**VISIT 3** – A fearful possibility.

### WHEN PAUL RETURNS TO CORINTH FOR THE THIRD TIME:

1. He will not be a burden to them. *12:14-19*

2. He is afraid of what he might find. *12:20-21*

3. He will be firm and address any unrepented sin. *13:1-4*

**An application you may not have expected:** *Matthew 18:15* *Galatians 6:1*

Is something going on in your life that might lead a fellow believer, who cares about you, to pay you an uncomfortable visit? Perhaps you should address whatever it is before it comes to that!

Search me, oh God, and know my heart; test me, and know my anxious thoughts.  
See if there is any sinful way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.  
*Psalms 139:23-24*