

unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

v92

2 Corinthians

unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

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unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

2 Corinthians

2 Corinthians 1

2 Corinthians 1:1

ULT	UST
Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to the church of God that is in Corinth, and to all the saints being in the whole of Achaia.	*I, Paul, write this letter to you, and Timothy, our fellow believer, is with me. God chose to send me to represent the Messiah Jesus, because that is what God wanted. I send this letter to you who are part of the group of believers belonging to God, which is in the city of Corinth. I also send this letter to all the believers who live throughout the region of Achaia.*

Who wrote this epistle?

Paul and Timothy wrote this epistle.

To whom was the epistle written?

It was written to the church of God which was at Corinth and to all the saints in the entire region of Achaia.

2 Corinthians 1:3

ULT	UST
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort,	*May we always praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus the Messiah—he is our merciful Father and our God who always comforts us.*

How does Paul describe God?

Paul describes God as the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and God of all comfort.

2 Corinthians 1:4

ULT	UST
the one comforting us in all our affliction so that we are able to comfort the ones in every affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.	*God comforts us whenever we suffer. He does that so that we can comfort others who are suffering in any way. God enables us to comfort them in the very same way as he comforts us.*

Why does God comfort us in our affliction?

He comforts us so that we are able to comfort those who are in affliction, with the same comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2 Corinthians 1:8-9

What trouble did Paul and his companions have in Asia?

They were burdened beyond what they could bear, so that they expected to die.

2 Corinthians 1:9

ULT	UST
Indeed, we ourselves have had within ourselves the sentence of death so that we would not be having become confident in ourselves, but in God, the one raising the dead,	*We felt like a person feels when he has heard a judge say, "I condemn you to die." But God allowed us to feel that way so that we would learn to not rely on ourselves but, instead, to rely on God. He causes people who have died to live again.*

For what reason was the sentence of death on Paul and his companions?

The sentence of death caused them to not put their trust in themselves, but instead to trust in God.

2 Corinthians 1:11

ULT	UST
you also joining in helping in supplication on our behalf—so that thanks may be given on our behalf from many faces for the gracious gift to us through many.	*as you help us by praying for us. Please do pray for us so that many people will thank God for what he will graciously do for us because many people prayed for us.*

How did Paul say that the Corinthian church could help them?

Paul said the Corinthian church could help them by their prayer.

2 Corinthians 1:12

ULT	UST
For our boasting is this: the testimony of our conscience, that we conducted ourselves in the world in holiness and sincerity of God, and not in fleshly wisdom, but in the grace of God, and more abundantly toward you.	*We are proud that we can honestly say that we have behaved toward all people in a holy and sincere way, as God has enabled us to do. We do not behave in the way that unbelievers think is wise. Instead, God graciously guides us, especially as we interact with you.*

Of what did Paul say that he and his companions were proud?

They were proud of the testimony of their conscience, which is that they had conducted themselves in the world—and especially in dealing with the Corinthian church—with the holiness and sincerity that come from God, not according to earthly wisdom but by the grace of God.

2 Corinthians 1:14

ULT	UST
just as you also understood us in part—so that we are your boasting, just as you also are ours, on the day of our Lord Jesus.	*just as you partially understand us already. Then when our Lord Jesus returns, you will be just as proud of us as we will be proud of you.*

What was Paul confident would happen on the day of our Lord Jesus?

He was confident that on that day Paul and his companions would be the reason for the pride of the Corinthian saints.

2 Corinthians 1:15

ULT	UST
And with this confidence, I was intending to come to you before so that you might have a second grace,	

How many times was Paul planning to visit the Corinthian saints?

He was planning to visit them two times.

2 Corinthians 1:22

ULT	UST
the one also having sealed us and having given us the down payment of the Spirit in our hearts.	*God gave us the Holy Spirit to live within us. That shows both that we belong to him and that he will also do for us everything else that he has promised to do for us.*

What is one reason that Christ gave us the Spirit in our hearts?

He gave the Spirit as a down payment or guarantee of what he would later give us.

2 Corinthians 1:23

ULT	UST
Now I invoke God as a witness upon my soul that sparing you, I have not yet come to Corinth.	*So now I will tell you why I changed my mind and did not visit you again as I intended to do. May God strike me dead if I am lying, but he knows that what I am telling you is true. The reason that I did not return to Corinth was so that I might not grieve you by having to speak to you severely about the wrong things that you have done.*

Why did Paul not come to Corinth?

He did not come to Corinth so that he might spare them.

2 Corinthians 1:24

ULT	UST
Not that we lord it over your faith, but we are fellow workers for your joy, for you stand firm in the faith.	*When I say that, I do not mean that we are your masters who give you orders about what to believe and do. Instead, everything that we tell you about living for God is so that you will be joyful. We do not need to command you, because God himself tells you what to believe and do.*

What did Paul say he and Timothy were and were not doing with the Corinthian church?

Paul said they were not trying to control what their faith should be, but they were working with the Corinthian church for their joy.

2 Corinthians 2

2 Corinthians 2:1

ULT	UST
For I decided this for myself, not to come to you again in sorrow.	*I have not visited you because I have chosen to avoid visiting you if it hurts you and me like it did last time I visited you.*

What circumstances was Paul trying to avoid by not coming to the Corinthian church?

Paul was avoiding coming to the Corinthian church in sorrow.

2 Corinthians 2:3

ULT	UST
And I wrote this same thing so that, having come, I might not have sorrow from those in whom it is necessary for me to rejoice, having become confident in all of you that my joy is the joy of all of you.	*I already wrote in my previous letter what I am now saying to you. I wrote those things so that, when I next visited you, you would not hurt me, and I would be glad about you as I should. I wrote those things because I was sure about all of you that you would be glad when I was glad.*

Why did Paul write as he did in his previous epistle to the Corinthian church?

He wrote as he did so that when he came to them he might not be hurt by those who should have made him rejoice.

2 Corinthians 2:4

ULT	UST
For I wrote to you out of much tribulation and anguish of heart, through many tears, not so that you would be grieved, but so that you might know the love that I have more abundantly for you.	*I suffered greatly and hurt inside when I wrote that previous letter to you. In fact, I wept while I wrote it. I sent it to you so that you would realize how much I care for you. I did not intend to hurt you.*

When Paul wrote to the Corinthians before, what was his state of mind?

He was in great tribulation and anguish of heart.

Why did Paul write this letter to the Corinthian church?

He wrote to them so that they would know the depth of the love that he had for them.

2 Corinthians 2:6-7

What did Paul say the Corinthian saints should now do for the one they punished?

Paul said they should forgive and comfort that person.

2 Corinthians 2:7

ULT	UST
so that, on the contrary, you should rather forgive and comfort him so that such a person might not be overwhelmed in his excessive sorrow.	*So then, instead of disciplining that person, you should now forgive and encourage that person. Otherwise, the person will become very sad and give up.*

Why did Paul say the Corinthian saints should forgive and comfort the one they had punished?

This was so that the one they had punished would not be overwhelmed by too much sorrow.

2 Corinthians 2:9

ULT	UST
Indeed, I also wrote for this reason: so that I might know your proof, whether you are obedient in all things.	*Another reason for which I wrote that previous letter was in order that I could find out for sure if you would do everything that I asked you to do.*

What is another reason Paul wrote to the Corinthian church?

Paul wrote to them to test them and to find out whether they were obedient in everything.

2 Corinthians 2:11

ULT	UST
so that we would not be taken advantage of by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.	*We should forgive others so that Satan will not control us. Indeed, we know all about his plans to control us.*

Why was it important for the Corinthian church to know that whoever they had forgiven was also forgiven by Paul and in the presence of Christ?

This was so that Satan would not trick them.

2 Corinthians 2:13

ULT	UST
I had no relief in my spirit, as I did not find my brother Titus there. So having said farewell to them, I went on to Macedonia.	*However, since my fellow believer Titus was not in the city of Troas, I continued to be anxious about what happened when he visited you. Therefore, I said goodbye to the believers there and left to travel to the region of Macedonia.*

Why did Paul have no peace of mind when he went to the city of Troas?

He had no peace of mind because he could not find his brother Titus in Troas.

2 Corinthians 2:14-15

What did God do through Paul and his companions?

Through Paul and his companions God spread the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Christ everywhere.

2 Corinthians 2:17

ULT	UST
For we are not like the many peddling the word of God; but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in the presence of God in Christ.	*You can tell that we do not do so perfectly because we do not sell the message that God has given us for money, like many other people do. Rather, we only want to serve God, not to gain something. Indeed, we proclaim the good news because that is what God sent us to do. So, as those whom God has united to the Messiah, we proclaim the good news to please God, not people.*

How did Paul say that he and his companions were different from many people who sold the word of God for profit?

Paul and his companions were different in that they spoke with purity of motives, as sent from God, speaking in Christ in the presence of God.

2 Corinthians 3

2 Corinthians 3:2

ULT	UST
You yourselves are our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men,	*It is you all who function like a note that proves that we are trustworthy. When we care for each other, all people realize that we are trustworthy, just as if they read a note from you.*

What letter of recommendation did Paul and his companions have?

The saints at Corinth were their letter of recommendation, known and read by all people.

2 Corinthians 3:4-5

What was the confidence that Paul and his companions had in God through Christ?

Their confidence was not in their own competence, but in the adequacy that God provided them.

2 Corinthians 3:6

ULT	UST
who indeed made us competent as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit makes alive.	*He has also enabled us to act on behalf of the new agreement. The Holy Spirit gives this new agreement, so it is not just words that someone wrote down. This is important because people who rely on the Holy Spirit will live, but people who rely on words that someone wrote down will die.*

What was the basis of the new covenant of which God had qualified Paul and his companions to be servants?

The new covenant was based on the Spirit, who gives life, not the letter, which kills.

2 Corinthians 3:7

ULT	UST
Now if the ministry of this death—engraved in letters on stones—came in glory, so that the sons of Israel were not able to look intently at the face of Moses because of the fading glory of his face,	*Further, when Moses acted on behalf of the old agreement that condemned people to die, God carved the words of the agreement onto stone slabs. What Moses did was glorious enough that the Israelites could not gaze at his face afterwards because it reflected how glorious God is, although that would eventually go away.*

Why could the people of Israel not look directly at Moses' face?

They could not look directly at his face because of the glory of his face, a glory that was fading.

2 Corinthians 3:9

ULT	UST
For if the ministry of this condemnation had glory, the ministry of this righteousness abounds much more in glory!	*Indeed, when Moses acted on behalf of the old agreement that led to God condemning people, it was glorious. So then, when people act on behalf of the new agreement that leads to people becoming righteous, it is even more glorious!*

Which will have more glory, the ministry of condemnation or the service of righteousness?

The ministry of righteousness abounds much more in glory.

2 Corinthians 3:14

ULT	UST
But their minds were hardened, for until the present day, the same veil remains at the reading of the old covenant, not being lifted, because in Christ it is fading away.	*In fact, the Israelites did not understand what God revealed. Indeed, even now, when someone reads the Scriptures that contain the old agreement, it is as if the cloth that Moses wore keeps people from understanding it. That is because no one can understand these Scriptures until God unites them to the Messiah.*

How can Israel's mind be opened and the veil removed from their hearts?

Only when Israel turns to the Lord Christ are their minds opened and the veil lifted away.

2 Corinthians 3:15

ULT	UST
But until today, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart,	*Indeed, even now, when someone reads the Law of Moses, it is as if that cloth keeps people from understanding it.*

What is the problem which remains today for the people of Israel whenever the old covenant of Moses is read?

Their problem is that their minds are closed and a veil lies over their hearts.

2 Corinthians 3:16

ULT	UST
but whenever one might turn to the Lord, the veil is taken away.	*However, when people begin to trust the Lord God, God enables them to understand the Law of Moses, just as if he removed that cloth.*

How can Israel's mind be opened and the veil removed from their hearts?

Only when Israel turns to the Lord Christ are their minds opened and the veil lifted away.

2 Corinthians 3:17

ULT	UST
Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.	*When I speak of the Lord God, I mean the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who enables people to understand the Scriptures.*

What is present with the Spirit of the Lord?

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

2 Corinthians 3:18

ULT	UST
Now we all, with unveiled face reflecting the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.	*So, all of us who believe show how glorious the Lord God is, and we do so without a cloth covering our faces. God is changing us so that we are like the Messiah. In this way, the glorious Lord, who is the Holy Spirit, makes us glorious.*

Into what are all those who are seeing the glory of the Lord being transformed?

They are being transformed into the same glorious likeness from one degree of glory into another.

2 Corinthians 4

2 Corinthians 4:1

ULT	UST
Therefore, having this ministry, just as we received mercy, we do not become discouraged.	*Because of those things, and because God mercifully enabled us to act on behalf of the new agreement, we do not give up.*

Why did Paul and his companions not become discouraged?

They did not become discouraged because of the ministry they had and because they had received mercy.

2 Corinthians 4:2

ULT	UST
Instead, we have rejected the shameful hidden things, not walking in craftiness, nor distorting the word of God, but by the manifestation of the truth, commending ourselves to every man's conscience before God.	*Rather, we refuse to do anything that we would hide because it is disgraceful. We do not try to deceive others, and we do not change the message from God. Instead, we proclaim the true message, and we prove to everyone that God considers us trustworthy.*

What were the ways that Paul and his companions had renounced?

They had renounced the ways that are shameful and hidden. They did not live by craftiness and did not mishandle the word of God.

How did Paul and those like him recommend themselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God?

They did this by presenting the truth.

2 Corinthians 4:3

ULT	UST
But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to the ones perishing,	*In fact, the only people who do not understood the good news that we proclaim are people who are passing away.*

To whom is the gospel veiled?

It is veiled to those who are perishing.

2 Corinthians 4:4

ULT	UST
to whom the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, so that the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, does not appear to them.	*Satan, who rules the world right now, has kept these people who do not believe from understanding. That way, the good news about the glorious Messiah, who shows what God is like, does not change them.*

Why is the gospel veiled to those who are perishing?

It is veiled because the god of this world has blinded their unbelieving minds so they are not able to see the light of the gospel.

2 Corinthians 4:5

ULT	UST
For we do not proclaim ourselves, but the Lord Christ Jesus, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.	*I say that the good news is about the Messiah because we do not tell other people about ourselves. Rather, we tell them about Jesus the Messiah, the Lord, and about how we serve you because of him.*

What did Paul and his companions proclaim about Jesus and about themselves?

They proclaimed Christ Jesus as Lord and themselves as the servants of the Corinthian church for Jesus' sake.

2 Corinthians 4:7

ULT	UST
But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that the surpassing greatness of the power might be from God and not from us;	*We experience and proclaim these wonderful things, but we ourselves are weak and worthless. That way, it is clear that God causes these things to be so powerful, not we.*

Why did Paul and his companions have this treasure in jars of clay?

They had this treasure in jars of clay so that it would be clear that the exceedingly great power belongs to God and not to them.

2 Corinthians 4:10

ULT	UST
always carrying around in the body the dying of Jesus so that the life of Jesus also might be revealed in our body;	*We continually suffer physically, like Jesus did. That way, God will make us live again, just like he made Jesus live again.*

Why did Paul and his companions carry in their bodies the death of Jesus?

They carried the death of Jesus in their bodies so that the life of Jesus might also be shown in their bodies.

2 Corinthians 4:14

ULT	UST
knowing that the one having raised Jesus will also raise us with Jesus and will present us with you.	*We do that because we realize that God made Jesus alive again, so he will also make us alive again. Then we will be with Jesus and with you before God.*

Who will be raised and brought into the presence of him who raised the Lord Jesus?

Paul and his companions as well as the Corinthian saints will be brought into the presence of him who raised the Lord Jesus.

2 Corinthians 4:15

ULT	UST
For all these things are for your sake so that the grace, having increased through more and more people, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.	*We do each of those things to help you. That way, God will act graciously to more people. Then, people will thank God more, which honors God.*

What will happen as a result of grace spreading to many people?

As grace is spread to many people, thanksgiving will increase to the glory of God.

2 Corinthians 4:16

ULT	UST
So we do not become discouraged. Rather, even if our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.	*Therefore, we do not give up. Instead, even though the part of us that people can see is perishing, every day God is strengthening the part of us that people cannot see.*

Why did Paul and his companions have reason to become discouraged?

They had reason to become discouraged because, outwardly, they were decaying.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Why did Paul and his companions not become discouraged?

They did not become discouraged because inwardly they were being renewed day by day. Also, their momentary, light affliction was preparing them for an eternal weight of glory that exceeds all measurement. Lastly, they were watching for unseen eternal things.

2 Corinthians 5

2 Corinthians 5:1

ULT	UST
For we know that if our earthly house of this tent is torn down, we have a building from God, an eternal house in the heavens, not made with hands.	*Indeed, we realize that the bodies we have on this earth will die. They are like tents that people destroy. However, God will give us new bodies that will live forever. They will be like buildings that God creates in the heavenly places.*

What did Paul say we still have if our earthly dwelling is destroyed?

Paul said we have a building from God, a house not made by human hands, but an eternal house, in the heavens.

2 Corinthians 5:4

ULT	UST
For indeed, we, the ones being in this tent, groan, being burdened, because of which we do not want to be unclothed, but to be fully clothed so that the mortal may be swallowed up by the life.	*Even further, while we have these bodies that are like tents, we mourn, and these bodies make living difficult. Because of that, it is not that we want to be without bodies, which would be like having no clothes. Rather, we want to receive new bodies, which will be like putting on new clothes. That way, we will live forever instead of expecting to die.*

Why did Paul say that we groan while we are in this tent?

Paul said this because while in this tent, we are burdened and want to be clothed so that what is mortal may be absorbed by life.

2 Corinthians 5:5

ULT	UST
Now the one having prepared us for this very thing is God, the one having given us the down payment of the Spirit.	*God is the one who makes us ready for these new bodies. He gave the Holy Spirit to us, which shows that he will also give us everything else that he has promised.*

What did God give to us as a pledge of what is to come?

God gave us the Spirit as a pledge of what is to come.

2 Corinthians 5:8

ULT	UST
Now we are confident and think it good rather to be away from the body and to be at home with the Lord.	*As I said, we are confident about what God will give us. Also, we would choose instead to be without our bodies and with the Lord Jesus.*

Would Paul rather be in the body or at home with the Lord?

Paul said, “We would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.”

2 Corinthians 5:9

ULT	UST
And therefore we aspire, whether being at home or being away, to be well-pleasing to him.	*So then, we strive to please the Lord Jesus whether we are with him or not.*

What was Paul’s goal?

Paul made it his goal to please the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:10

ULT	UST
For it is necessary for us all to be revealed before the judgment seat of Christ so that each one may receive back the things done through the body, with regard to what things he did, whether good or bad.	*We do that because all of us will have to appear before the Messiah and he will decide whether each one of us has done what is right or what is wrong. Then, he will give us what we deserve in proportion to what we did while we had these bodies.*

Why did Paul make it his goal to please the Lord?

Paul made this his goal because we all must appear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive what is due for the things done in the body, whether for good or for bad.

2 Corinthians 5:11

ULT	UST
Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men. But we are clearly known by God, and I hope also to be clearly known in your consciences.	*So then, because we experience what it means to fear the Lord Jesus, we convince others to fear him also. God knows that we are trustworthy, and I want you also to know that we are trustworthy.*

Why did Paul and his companions persuade people?

They persuaded people because they knew the fear of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:12

ULT	UST
We are not again commending ourselves to you, but are giving you an opportunity of boasting on our behalf, so that you may have an answer for the ones boasting in appearance and not in heart.	*We are not proving to you a second time that we are trustworthy. Rather, we are enabling you to say great things about us. That way, you can respond to anybody who says great things about how people appear on the outside and not about who those people really are on the inside.*

Paul said they were not again recommending themselves to the Corinthian saints. What were they doing?

They were giving the Corinthian saints a reason to be proud of them, so that the Corinthian saints might have an answer for those who boasted about appearances but not about what was in the heart.

2 Corinthians 5:15

ULT	UST
And he died for all so that the ones living should live no longer for themselves, but for the one having died for them and having been raised.	*Further, this is why he died to rescue all people: that way, those who live spiritually will not do whatever they want anymore. Instead, they will do what the Messiah wants, since he died to rescue them and God made him alive again.*

Since Christ died for all, what should those who live do?

They should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised.

2 Corinthians 5:16

ULT	UST
Therefore, from now on we regard no one according to the flesh. Even if we regarded Christ according to the flesh, yet now we no longer regard him that way.	*Because of all that, we do not think about anyone in merely human ways any longer. Indeed, although at one time we thought about the Messiah in merely human ways, we do not think about him in those ways any longer.*

By what standards do the saints no longer judge anyone?

The saints no longer judge anyone by human standards.

2 Corinthians 5:17

ULT	UST
Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things passed away; behold, new things have come.	*So then, whenever God unites people to the Messiah, he makes them new people. What they used to be has disappeared. Look, what they are now is something new!*

What happens to anyone who is in Christ?

He is a new creation. The old things have passed away; new things have come.

2 Corinthians 5:19

ULT	UST
namely, that God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and having placed in us the word of reconciliation.	*Here is how that works: God works through Christ to enable every person to be with him. In doing so, he forgives people for what they have done wrong. Further, he commissions us to tell others about how they can be with God.*

When God through Christ reconciles people to himself, what does God do for them?

God does not count their sinful acts against them, and he entrusts to them the message of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:20

ULT	UST
Therefore, we are ambassadors on behalf of Christ, as though God is appealing through us: We implore you on behalf of Christ: "Be reconciled to God!"	*Because God has commissioned us, we represent the Messiah. So, God encourages others through us. We speak for the Messiah when we ask you to believe the good news so that you can be with God.*

As appointed representatives of Christ, what is the plea of Paul and his companions to the Corinthians?

Their plea to the Corinthians is to be reconciled to God for the sake of Christ!

2 Corinthians 5:21

ULT	UST
The one not having known sin he made sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.	*Jesus did not sin. Despite that, for our sake God treated him as if he had sinned. As a result, God makes us righteous by uniting us to Jesus.*

Why did God make Christ become the sacrifice for our sin?

God did this so that in Christ we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 6

2 Corinthians 6:1

ULT	UST
Now working together with him, we also urge you not to receive the grace of God in vain—	*As those who serve with God, we encourage you to accept fully what God has graciously done for you, so that it changes how you live.*

What did Paul and his companions beg the Corinthians not to do?

They begged the Corinthians not to receive the grace of God to no effect.

2 Corinthians 6:2

ULT	UST
for he says, "At an acceptable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I helped you." Behold, now is a favorable time. Look, now is a day of salvation.	*You should do that because God says in the scripture: "When I considered it to be the right time, I heard you and acted. Indeed, when I was rescuing people, I assisted you." Right now is when God considers it to be the best time! Indeed, right now is when God is rescuing people!*

When is the favorable time? When is the day of salvation?

Now is the favorable time. Now is the day of salvation.

2 Corinthians 6:3

ULT	UST
Giving no cause for offense in anything so that our ministry might not be blamed,	*We avoid doing anything that might offend others. That way, no one can criticize how we serve God.*

Why did Paul and his companions not place a stumbling block in front of anyone?

They did not put a stumbling block in front of anyone, for they did not want their ministry to be blamed.

2 Corinthians 6:4

ULT	UST
instead, we commend ourselves in everything as servants of God; in much endurance, in tribulations, in hardships, in distresses,	*Rather, we prove that we are trustworthy in every way while we serve God. We always persevere when people hurt and persecute us.*

What did the actions of Paul and his companions prove?

Their actions proved they were God's servants.

2 Corinthians 6:4-5

What are some of the things that Paul and his companions endured?

They endured affliction, distress, hardship, beatings, imprisonments, riots, hard work, sleepless nights and hunger.

2 Corinthians 6:8

ULT	UST
through honor and dishonor, through bad report and good report; as deceivers, yet true;	*Some people honor us, and others shame us. Some people say bad things about us, and others say good things about us. Some people think that we tell lies, but really we speak what is true.*

Even though Paul and his companions were truthful, of what were they accused?

They were accused of being deceitful.

2 Corinthians 6:11-13

What exchange does Paul wish to make with the Corinthians?

Paul said his heart was wide open to the Corinthians and, in fair exchange, Paul wanted the Corinthians saints to open their hearts wide to Paul and his companions.

2 Corinthians 6:14-16

What reasons does Paul give as to why the Corinthian saints should not be tied together with unbelievers?

Paul gives the following reasons: What association does righteousness have with lawlessness? Does light have fellowship with darkness? Can Christ agree with Beliar? What share does a believer have together with an unbeliever? Can there be agreement between the temple of God and idols?

2 Corinthians 6:17-18

What does the Lord say he will do for those who will, "Come out from among them and be set apart, and touch no unclean thing…"?

The Lord says he will welcome them. He will be a Father to them and they will be his sons and daughters.

2 Corinthians 7

2 Corinthians 7:1

ULT	UST
Therefore, beloved, having these promises, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.	*So then, fellow believers whom I love, because God has promised these things to us, we should get rid of everything that defiles us on the outside and on the inside. We should become completely holy as we fear God.*

Of what does Paul say we are supposed to cleanse ourselves?

We are supposed to cleanse ourselves of everything that makes us unclean in body and spirit.

2 Corinthians 7:2

ULT	UST
Make room for us! We wronged no one; we ruined no one; we took advantage of no one.	*We ask you to care for us! We have not hurt, cheated, or destroyed anyone.*

What did Paul want the Corinthian saints to do for himself and his companions?

Paul wanted them to, “Make room for us!”

2 Corinthians 7:3-4

What words of encouragement did Paul have for the Corinthian saints?

Paul told the Corinthian saints they were in his and his companion’s hearts, to die together and to live together. Paul also told them he had great confidence in them and was proud of them.

2 Corinthians 7:6-7

What comfort did God give to Paul and his companions when they came to Macedonia and were troubled in every way–conflicts on the outside and fears on the inside?

God comforted them by the arrival of Titus, by the report of the comfort Titus had received from the Corinthian saints, and by the Corinthian’s great affection and their sorrow and deep concern for Paul.

2 Corinthians 7:8-9

What did Paul's previous letter produce in the Corinthian saints?

The Corinthian saints experienced grief unto repentance in response to Paul's previous letter.

2 Corinthians 7:9

ULT	UST
now I rejoice, not that you were grieved, but that you were grieved to the point of repentance. For you were grieved with respect to God, so that you would not suffer loss in anything through us.	*However, now that Titus has told us about you, I am very happy. I am happy not because I hurt you. Rather, I am happy because when I hurt you, you became sorry for what you did and stopped doing it. In fact, you felt hurt in a way that honors God. So, we have not deprived you of anything good.*

What did Godly sadness produce in the Corinthian saints?

Sadness brought about repentance in them.

2 Corinthians 7:12

ULT	UST
So even though I wrote to you, it was not for the sake of the one having done wrong, nor for the sake of the one having suffered wrong, but so that your earnestness which is on our behalf might be revealed to you before God.	*So then, when I sent the previous letter to you, I was not primarily dealing with the person who did what was wrong. Also, I was not primarily dealing with the person whom he hurt. Rather, I intended to show you how eager you are to act rightly toward us and that God approves of this.*

Why did Paul say he wrote his previous letter to the Corinthian saints?

Paul said he wrote so that the earnestness of the Corinthians saints for Paul and his companions should be made known to the Corinthian saints in the sight of God.

2 Corinthians 7:13

ULT	UST
Because of this we have been encouraged. Now in addition to our own encouragement, we rejoiced even more abundantly at the joy of Titus, because his spirit had been refreshed by all of you.	*Since you responded in these ways, you have encouraged us. In fact, although you did encourage us, we are even more happy about how you made Titus happy. You did that when you all comforted and strengthened him.*

Why was Titus joyful?

He was joyful because his spirit was refreshed by all the Corinthian saints.

2 Corinthians 7:15

ULT	UST
And his affections towards you are more abundant, remembering the obedience of all of you, how you received him with fear and trembling.	*Titus recalls how you all obeyed us, particularly how you feared him when he arrived. Because of that, he cares about you even more now.*

Why did Titus' affection for the Corinthian saints grow even greater?

Titus' affection for the Corinthian saints grew even greater as he remembered the obedience of all the Corinthian saints as they welcomed him with fear and trembling.

2 Corinthians 8

2 Corinthians 8:1

ULT	UST
Now we make known to you, brothers, the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia,	*My fellow believers, we want to tell you about what God has graciously enabled the groups of believers here in Macedonia province to do.*

What did Paul want the Corinthian brothers and sisters to know?

Paul wanted them to know about the grace of God that was given to the churches of Macedonia.

2 Corinthians 8:2

ULT	UST
that during a severe trial of affliction, the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded to the riches of their generosity.	*Even though they suffered very much, which tested how they would respond, they were extremely generous. They were very joyful as they did this, even though they had very little.*

What did the churches of Macedonia do during a great test of affliction, and even though were extremely poor?

They produced great riches of generosity.

2 Corinthians 8:6

ULT	UST
So we urged Titus that, just as he began, in the same way he would also complete for you this grace as well.	*Because of that, we encouraged Titus to finish accepting what you are giving, especially since he had already started doing so.*

What did Paul urge Titus to do?

Paul urged Titus to bring to completion this act of grace on the part of the Corinthian saints.

2 Corinthians 8:7

ULT	UST
But even as you abound in everything, in faith and in speech and in knowledge and in all earnestness and in the love from us in you, so also you should abound in this act of grace.	*As for you, you are already doing well in so many ways. This includes how you trust God, what you say, how much you know, how you are always eager to do what is right, and how much we love you. So, you should also do well in giving money for fellow believers.*

In what else did the Corinthian believers abound?

They abounded in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in their love for Paul.

2 Corinthians 8:12

ULT	UST
For if the readiness is already there, it is fully acceptable according to whatever one might have, not according to what he does not have.	*Now God approves of what people give based on what they have, not based on what they do not have. This is true as long as they are eager to give.*

What does Paul say is a good and acceptable thing?

Paul says it is a good and acceptable thing for the Corinthian saints to have a readiness to do that work.

2 Corinthians 8:13-14

Does Paul want this task to be done so others may be relieved and the Corinthian saints may be burdened?

No. Paul said the Corinthians' abundance at that current time would supply what they (the other saints) needed, and so that their abundance might also supply the Corinthian saints' need, and so that there might be fairness.

2 Corinthians 8:16-17

What did Titus do after God put into his heart the same earnest care that Paul had for the Corinthian saints?

Titus accepted Paul's appeal, and being very earnest about it, he came to the Corinthian saints of his own free will.

2 Corinthians 8:20

ULT	UST
avoiding this, that no one might blame us concerning this generosity being administered by us.	*So, we are doing what we can to keep others from criticizing us for what we do with this money that people have generously given.*

What was Paul careful to avoid in his actions concerning this act of generosity?

Paul was careful to avoid giving anyone reason to complain about his actions.

2 Corinthians 8:24

ULT	UST
Therefore, prove to them to the faces of the churches the proof of your love and of our boasting about you.	*So then, show these three men and also the groups of believers that you really do care for fellow believers and that the great things we say about you really are true.*

What did Paul tell the Corinthian saints to do concerning the brothers that were sent to them by the other churches?

Paul told the Corinthian church to show them their love and to show them why Paul had boasted about the Corinthian church among the other churches.

2 Corinthians 9

2 Corinthians 9:1

ULT	UST
For concerning the ministry that is to the saints, it is excessive for me to write to you.	*Really, though, I do not need to say anything to you about how we are serving God's people in Jerusalem.*

About what does Paul say it is not necessary to write to the Corinthian saints?

Paul says it is no necessary to write to them concerning the ministry for the saints.

2 Corinthians 9:3

ULT	UST
But I sent the brothers so that our boasting which is about you might not be futile in this matter and so that you might be ready, as I was saying.	*However, although we know that you are eager, we have chosen these three fellow believers to visit you to make sure that the great things we say about how you are eager to give prove true. They are visiting you so that you can finish preparing to give and in this way match what I have told the Macedonians about you.*

Why did Paul send the brothers to Corinth?

He sent the brothers so that his boasting about the Corinthian saints might not be futile, and so that the Corinthian saints would be ready, as Paul said they would be.

2 Corinthians 9:4-5

Why did Paul think it necessary to urge the brothers to go to the Corinthian saints and make arrangements in advance for the gift the Corinthians had promised?

Paul thought is necessary so that Paul and his companions would not be put to shame in case any Macedonians came with Paul and found the Corinthians unprepared. Paul wanted the Corinthians to be ready with the gift as one freely offered and not because the Corinthians were forced to give it.

2 Corinthians 9:6

ULT	UST
Now this I say: the one sowing sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one sowing in blessings will also reap in blessings.	*Here is an example that illustrates how you should give. When farmers plant only a few seeds, they harvest only a little food. When farmers plant many seeds, they harvest much food. Much like that, when you help other people, someone will help you in return.*

What example does Paul use to explain why believers should give generously?

Paul says that people who sow only a little will reap only a little, but those who sow generously will also reap generously.

2 Corinthians 9:7

ULT	UST
Let each one give just as he has decided beforehand in his heart, not from sorrow or from compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.	*Each of you should choose for yourself how much to give. Do not choose how much to give because you feel hurt or because you have to. I say that because God cares for people who give gladly.*

How is each one to give?

Each one is to give as he has planned in his heart—not out of compelling obligation or so as to have sorrow when he gives.

2 Corinthians 9:10-11

What was the one who provides seed for the sower and bread for food going to do for the Corinthian saints?

That one was going to supply and multiply their seed for sowing and increase the harvest of their righteousness. They were going to be enriched in every way so they could be generous.

2 Corinthians 9:13

ULT	UST
Through the proof of this ministry, they are glorifying God on the basis of the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ and the generosity of the fellowship toward them and toward everyone,	*You prove yourselves by serving God's people in Jerusalem. So then, they will honor God because you actually do what the good news about the Messiah requires, which is the same good news that you say you believe. They will honor God also because you generously share what you have with them and with all believers.*

For what reason were the saints in Jerusalem glorifying God?

They were glorifying God because of the Corinthians' obedience to their confession of the gospel of Christ and because of the generosity of the Corinthians' gift.

2 Corinthians 9:14

ULT	UST
and in their prayer on your behalf, longing for you because of the surpassing grace of God upon you.	*Further, they will want to see you as they pray for you, since you give very graciously as God enables you to.*

Why did the other saints long for the Corinthian saints as they prayed for them?

They longed for them because of the exceedingly great grace of God that was upon the Corinthians.

2 Corinthians 10

2 Corinthians 10:2

ULT	UST
Now I am pleading that, being present, I will not need to be bold with the confidence with which I plan to be courageous against some of the ones regarding us as walking according to the flesh.	*I do intend to be forceful when I boldly act against these people who think that I and those who serve with me act in merely human ways. So, I ask you to do what is right so that I will not need to be forceful with you too when I visit you.*

What did Paul beg of the Corinthian saints?

Paul begged of them that when he was present with them, he would not have to be bold with self-confidence.

For what occasion did Paul think he would have to be bold with self-confidence?

Paul thought he would have to be bold with self-confidence when he opposed those who supposed that Paul and his companions were living according to the flesh.

2 Corinthians 10:4

ULT	UST
For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly, but are powerful to God for the tearing down of strongholds, tearing down strategies	*In fact, what we use to defend ourselves is not what humans normally use. Rather, God empowers what we use to defend ourselves so that we can defeat what other people powerfully argue.*

When Paul and his companions waged war, what kind of weapons did they not use?

Paul and his companions did not use fleshly weapons when they waged war.

What did the weapons that Paul used have the power to do?

The weapons Paul used had divine power to destroy strongholds.

2 Corinthians 10:8

ULT	UST
For even if I might boast somewhat excessively about our authority, which the Lord gave for building up and not for your tearing down, I will not be ashamed,	*Indeed, I do not disgrace myself when I say many great things about how the Lord Jesus has empowered us to represent him. He did that so that we could encourage and help you to trust God more, not so that we could discourage you from trusting God.*

For what reason did the Lord give Paul and his companions authority?

The Lord gave Paul and his companions authority so they could build up the Corinthian saints and not destroy them.

2 Corinthians 10:10

ULT	UST
For someone says, "Indeed, his letters are weighty and forceful, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech is despised."	*I write that because some people say about me, "He sends severe and powerful letters to us, but he is feeble and speaks very poorly when he is with us."*

What were some people saying about Paul and his letters?

Some were saying Paul's letters were serious and powerful, but physically he was weak and his speech was not worth listening to.

2 Corinthians 10:11

ULT	UST
Let such a person consider this, that such as we are in our word through letters being absent, such we are also in our deed being present.	*People who say those things need to realize that what we write in our letters to you when we are not with you is also how we act when we are with you.*

What did Paul say to those who thought he was much different in person than his letters indicated?

Paul said that what he said by letter when he was away would be the same as he would do when he was there with the Corinthians saints.

2 Corinthians 10:12

ULT	UST
For we do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of the ones commending themselves. But these—measuring themselves by themselves and comparing themselves with themselves—do not understand.	*We are too humble to say that we are as good as people you know who say that they are trustworthy. Those people are foolish. When they say that they are great, they are looking only at themselves.*

What did those who praised themselves do to show they had no insight?

They showed they had no insight because they measured themselves by one another and compared themselves with each other.

2 Corinthians 10:13

ULT	UST
We, however, will not boast to the immeasurable things, but according to the measure of the limit that God has assigned to us, a measure that reached even as far as you.	*In contrast, we do not say great things about ourselves beyond what we actually do. Rather, we say great things about ourselves that match with what God has given us to do. That includes what we do whenever we are with you.*

What were the limits of Paul's boasting?

Paul said his boasting would stay in the area that God had assigned to them, even reaching as far as the Corinthians. Paul said they would not boast about the labor of others, about the work being done in another's area.

2 Corinthians 10:15-16

What were the specific limits of Paul's boasting?

Paul said their boasting would stay in the area that God had assigned to them, even reaching as far as the Corinthians. Paul said they would not boast about the labor of others, about the work being done in another's area.

2 Corinthians 10:18

ULT	UST
For that one commending himself is not approved, but whom the Lord commends.	*Everyone should do that because the Lord Jesus recommends those whom he says are trustworthy, not those who say that about themselves.*

Who is the one who is approved?

The one who is approved is the one the Lord commends.

2 Corinthians 11

2 Corinthians 11:2

ULT	UST
For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy, for I joined you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.	*I will say foolish things because I am protective of you as God is protective of you. In fact, when I told you the good news, I was like a father who promised to give you to a man as his wife. Just like this father wants his daughter to be with only this one man, so I want you to trust only in the Messiah.*

Why did Paul have a godly jealousy for the Corinthian saints?

He was jealous for them because he had promised them in marriage to one husband, to present them as pure virgins for Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:3

ULT	UST
But I am afraid that somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds might be corrupted from the sincerity and the purity that are to Christ.	*However, I fear that someone will trick you, just as Satan cleverly tricked Eve, the first woman. I fear that such a person will ruin how you think in ways that are completely loyal to the Messiah.*

What was Paul afraid of concerning the Corinthian saints?

Paul was afraid their thoughts might be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:4

ULT	UST
For if indeed one coming proclaims another Jesus whom we did not proclaim, or you receive a different spirit which you did not receive or a different gospel which you did not accept, you are bearing with it well!	*I fear for you because I know that people visit you and tell you about Jesus, but it is not the same Jesus we told you about. Others offer you a spirit, but it is not the Holy Spirit that we offered to you. Others proclaim good news to you, but it is not the same good news that you first believed. Despite that, you are very patient when people tell you about these things.*

What did the Corinthian saints tolerate?

They tolerated someone coming and proclaiming another Jesus, a different gospel than the one Paul and his companions preached.

2 Corinthians 11:7

ULT	UST
Or did I commit a sin, humbling myself so that you yourselves might be exalted, because I preached the gospel of God to you without payment?	*You know that I did not sin against you when I did not ask you to pay me for proclaiming to you the good news from God. By doing that, I made myself less important to make you more important.*

How did Paul preach the gospel to the Corinthians?

Paul preached the gospel freely to the Corinthians.

2 Corinthians 11:8

ULT	UST
I robbed other churches, having accepted a wage for the ministry to you.	*In fact, I received money from other groups of believers. I accepted their money so that I could serve you.*

How did Paul "rob" other churches?

He "robbed" them by accepting support from them so he could serve the Corinthians.

2 Corinthians 11:13

ULT	UST
For the ones of such kind are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.	*Those people are not really those whom the Messiah sent to represent him. They deceive people with what they do, and they can only pretend to represent the Messiah.*

How does Paul describe those who wish to be found equal to Paul and his companions in the things about which they boast?

Paul describes such people as false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:14

ULT	UST
And no wonder, for Satan himself disguises himself as an angel of light.	*That should not surprise us. The devil also pretends to be a glorious spiritual being.*

How does Satan disguise himself?

He disguises himself as an angel of light.

2 Corinthians 11:16

ULT	UST
I say again: Let no one think me to be foolish. But if not, receive me at least as a fool so that I too may boast a little bit.	*I repeat what I said earlier: I do not want anyone to think that I am foolish. However, if you do think that I am foolish, you should at least allow me to act in foolish ways. That way, I too can say a few great things about myself.*

Why did Paul ask the Corinthian saints to receive him like a fool?

Paul asked them to receive him like a fool so he could boast a little.

2 Corinthians 11:19-20

With whom did Paul say the Corinthian saints gladly put up?

Paul said they gladly put up with the foolish, with someone who enslaved them, with someone who caused divisions among them, with someone who took advantage of them, with one who put on airs, or one who slapped them in the face.

2 Corinthians 11:22-23

What are Paul's boasts comparing himself to those who wish to be found equal with Paul in what they boasted about?

Paul boasted that he was a Hebrew, an Israelite and a descendant of Abraham just like those who claimed to be equal to Paul. Paul said he was more a servant of Christ than they were–in even more hard work, in far more prisons, in beatings beyond measure, in facing many dangers of death.

2 Corinthians 11:24-26

What were some of the specific dangers Paul endured?

Paul received five times the "40 lashes minus one" from the Jews. Three times he was beaten with rods. Once he was stoned. Three times he was shipwrecked. He spent a night and a day in the open sea. He was in danger from rivers, from robbers, from his own people, from the Gentiles. He was in danger in the city, in the wilderness, in the sea and in danger from false brothers.

2 Corinthians 11:29

ULT	UST
Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is caused to stumble, and I am not inflamed?	*When a fellow believer is feeble, I am feeble. When someone causes a fellow believer to sin, I become very angry.*

According to Paul, what caused him to burn within?

One causing another to fall into sin made Paul burn within.

2 Corinthians 11:30

ULT	UST
If it is necessary to boast, I will boast about the things of my weakness.	*Since I need to say great things about myself, I intend to say great things about how feeble I am.*

What did Paul say he would boast about, if he had to boast?

Paul said he would boast about what showed his weaknesses.

2 Corinthians 11:32

ULT	UST
In Damascus, the ethnarch under Aretas the king was guarding the city of Damascenes to arrest me.	*When I was in Damascus city, the local ruler who served King Aretas had soldiers looking for me in the city to capture me.*

What danger afflicted Paul at Damascus?

The governor of Damascus guarded the city to arrest Paul.

2 Corinthians 12

2 Corinthians 12:1

ULT	UST
It is necessary to boast. It is not profitable, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.	*I need to say great things about myself. So, although it is not helpful, I am moving on to speak about how the Lord Jesus specially shows things to specific people.*

About what did Paul say he would now boast?

Paul said he would go on to boast about visions and revelations from the Lord.

2 Corinthians 12:2

ULT	UST
I know a man in Christ—whether in the body, I do not know, or out of the body, I do not know, God knows—such a man having been caught up to the third heaven 14 years ago.	*Fourteen years ago, God took a certain Christian to the third level of heaven. I am not sure whether God took him there physically or in a dream or spiritually. Only God can be sure how it happened.*

What happened to the man in Christ 14 years ago?

He was caught up into the third heaven.

2 Corinthians 12:6

ULT	UST
For even if I desire to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth; but I refrain, so that no one would think more of me than what he sees in me or hears from me.	*In fact, suppose that I did want to say great things about myself. Since I am speaking truthfully, I would still not be acting foolishly. However, I decide not to say great things about myself. That way, people can only characterize me by what they observe me saying and doing.*

Why does Paul say it would not be foolish if he boasted?

Paul said it would not be foolish for him to boast because he would be speaking the truth.

2 Corinthians 12:7

ULT	UST
And because of the surpassing nature of the revelations, therefore, so that I would not become arrogant, a thorn in the flesh was given to me—a messenger of Satan—so that he might buffet me, so that I would not become arrogant.	*So then, in order that I might not become proud because God revealed such great things to me, he allowed me to suffer. Specifically, a spiritual being whom Satan sent made me suffer. That way, I might not become proud.*

What happened to Paul to keep him from becoming puffed up?

Paul was given a thorn in the flesh, a messenger from Satan to harass him.

2 Corinthians 12:9

ULT	UST
But he has said to me, "My grace is enough for you, for my power is being made perfect in weakness." So I will most gladly boast even more in my weaknesses so that the power of Christ might reside upon me.	*He responded by saying to me, "When I act kindly to you, that is all you need. In fact, I make people fully powerful when they are feeble." Therefore, I will most happily say more great things about how feeble I am. That way, the Messiah will always enable me to act powerfully.*

What did the Lord tell Paul after Paul asked the Lord to remove his thorn in the flesh?

The Lord told Paul, "My grace is enough for you, for power is made perfect in weakness."

Why did Paul say it was preferable to boast about his weakness?

Paul said it was preferable so that the power of Christ might reside in him.

2 Corinthians 12:12

ULT	UST
Indeed, the signs of an apostle were performed among you with all endurance—both signs and wonders and miracles.	*I persevered in acting in the ways that prove to you that I really am one whom the Messiah sent to represent him. I did powerful and amazing things.*

What was performed among the Corinthians with all patience?

Signs wonders and mighty deeds, the true signs of an apostle, were performed among them with all patience.

2 Corinthians 12:14

ULT	UST
Behold! I am ready to come to you this third time, and I will not burden you. For I do not seek the things of yours, but you. For the children should not store up for the parents, but the parents for the children.	*Pay attention! I am about to visit you for the third time. Yet again, I will not bother you by asking for money. That is because I want you to trust me and the Messiah. I do not want the things that you have. In fact, since I am like your parent, I should be saving money for you. Further, since you are like my children, you should not be saving money for me.*

Why did Paul tell the Corinthians he would not be a burden to them?

Paul told them this to show them that he did not want what was theirs. He wanted them.

2 Corinthians 12:15

ULT	UST
Now I will most gladly spend and be completely spent for the sake of your souls. If loving you more abundantly, am I to be loved less?	*I will most happily do and experience anything to help you. When I love you more than I did before, you should not love me less than you did before.*

What did Paul say he would most gladly do for the Corinthian saints?

Paul said he would most gladly spend and be spent for their souls.

2 Corinthians 12:19

ULT	UST
Do you think all of this time that we are defending ourselves to you? Before God in Christ we are speaking. But all these things, beloved, are for the sake of your building up.	*You should know that the reason why we have said these things is not to explain to you that I and those who serve with me are trustworthy. Rather, as those whom God has united to the Messiah, we have been saying what pleases God. Of course, fellow believers whom we love, we intend everything we say and do to help you grow.*

For what purpose did Paul say all these things to the Corinthian saints?

Paul said all these things to build up the Corinthian saints.

2 Corinthians 12:20

ULT	UST
For I fear that somehow, having come, I might find you not such as I wish, and I might be found by you not such as you wish; that somehow there may be quarreling, jealousy, ragings, rivalries, slanders, gossips, inflated egos, and riots,	*I have said these things because I am concerned about what will happen when I visit. I am concerned that I will discover that you are not acting as I want you to act and that you will discover that I am not acting as you want me to act. I am concerned that you may be fighting with each other, being jealous of each other, being angry with each other, trying to control each other, saying bad things about each other, telling false stories about others, saying great things about yourselves, or stirring up crowds against each other.*

What was Paul afraid he might find when he went back to the Corinthian saints?

Paul was afraid that among them he would find arguments, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, gossip, pride, and disorder.

2 Corinthians 12:21

ULT	UST
that when I come again, my God might humble me before you, and I would mourn over many of the ones having sinned before and not having repented from the impurity and sexual immorality and debauchery that they did.	*I am concerned about what will happen when I visit you this third time. God may make me ashamed about you. Further, I may feel very sad about many people who have previously done what is wrong and have not stopped having improper sex.*

What was Paul afraid that God might do to him?

Paul was afraid God might humble Paul before the Corinthian saints.

For what reason does Paul think he might mourn for many of the Corinthian saints who previously sinned?

Paul was afraid they might not have repented of the impurity and sexual immorality and lustful indulgence which they previously practiced.

2 Corinthians 13

2 Corinthians 13:1-2

How many times had Paul already come to the Corinthian saints at the time 2 Corinthians was written?

Paul had already come to them twice at the time 2 Corinthians was written.

2 Corinthians 13:3

ULT	UST
since you are seeking proof of the Christ speaking in me, who is not weak toward you but is powerful among you.	*I tell you this because you have demanded that I prove to you that the Messiah is speaking to you when I speak to you. You will know this when he disciplines you. He will not be weak with you; instead, he will work powerfully among you.*

Why did Paul tell the Corinthians saints who had sinned and all the rest that if he came again, he would not spare them?

Paul told them this because the Corinthian saints were seeking evidence that Christ was speaking through Paul.

2 Corinthians 13:5

ULT	UST
Test yourselves, whether you are in the faith. Examine yourselves. Or do you not fully realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless you are unapproved?	*Each of you should ask yourself: "Do I trust the Messiah and live as he directs me?" Each of you should test yourself in this way. Then you will know that you truly live as one with Jesus the Messiah. That is true unless, of course, you fail this test.*

For what did Paul tell the Corinthian saints to examine and test themselves?

Paul told them to examine and test themselves to see if they were in the faith.

2 Corinthians 13:6

ULT	UST
And I hope that you will realize that we ourselves are not unapproved.	*As for us, I am certain that you will understand that we have passed the test.*

What was Paul confident the Corinthian saints would find concerning Paul and his companions?

Paul was confident the Corinthian saints would find that they were not unapproved, but approved by God.

2 Corinthians 13:8

ULT	UST
For we are not able to do anything against the truth, but only on behalf of the truth.	*We want you to do good things even if then we cannot discipline you and appear to be powerful because we must obey God's true message. We cannot do anything that contradicts God's true message.*

What did Paul say that he and his companions were not able to do?

Paul said they were not able to do anything against the truth.

2 Corinthians 13:10

ULT	UST
Because of this, I write these things being absent so that, being present, I would not treat you harshly according to the authority which the Lord gave to me for building up and not for tearing down.	*It is because I want you to trust and obey God completely that I am writing to you about these things while I am apart from you. Then when I come to you, I will not have to discipline you severely. The Lord has empowered me to represent him, but he did that so that I could encourage and help you to trust God more, not so that I could discourage you from trusting God.*

Why did Paul write these things to the Corinthian saints while he was away from them?

Paul did this so that when he was with them, he would not have to act harshly toward them.

How did Paul want to use the authority the Lord gave him with regard to the Corinthian saints?

Paul wanted to use his authority to build up the Corinthian saints and not tear them down.

2 Corinthians 13:11-12

In concluding, what did Paul want the Corinthians to do?

Paul wanted them to rejoice, to work for restoration, to agree with one another, to live in peace, and to greet each other with a holy kiss.

2 Corinthians 13:13

ULT	UST
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.	*May the Lord Jesus the Messiah act kindly toward you, may God love you, and may the Holy Spirit be with you and join you all together.*

What did Paul want all the Corinthian saints to have with them?

Paul wanted them all to have the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.