

Coming Back from Disappointment
2 Corinthians 1:12-2:4, Pew Bible p. 964
August 14, 2022

I. God's Authority in Restoration (1:12-14)

A. Christian faith is always either at work restoring others or being restored by others.

B. Whether you are restoring the faith of others or your faith is being restored by others, you do so by God's grace, not man's preferences.

II. Man's Responsibility in Restoration (1:15-22)

A. Restoring the faith of others:

1. Requires overcoming disappointment
2. Requires good communication of intentions
3. Requires reaffirming love and affection

B. Being restored by others:

1. Requires overcoming disappointment
2. Requires trust in godly people
3. Requires trust in the Holy Spirit's work in you

III. Relationships in Restoration (1:23-2:4)

A. Restoring the faith of others is NOT spiritual babysitting.

B. Being restored by others requires accepting tough love.

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read 2 Corinthians 1:12-2:4.
2. Why is it important for Christians to view their own conduct with people with God's eyes and not people's eyes, as the apostle Paul does in verse 12?
3. Share about a time God used someone else to restore your faith. Then, share about a time God used you to restore someone else's faith.
4. Have you ever had a difficult conflict with someone that was so hard that even after the conflict was over, normal interactions were a little awkward afterward? What were some things you did to help the relationship go back to the way things were? What are some things you see Paul doing with the Corinthians in verses 15-22?
5. Have you ever been disappointed in other Christians? What led to that disappointment? What are some things you did to overcome that disappointment? What are some ways you see Paul overcoming his own disappointment in the Corinthians as well as the Corinthians' disappointment in Paul's failure to return when they wanted him to?
6. How could Paul decide not to return to the Corinthians even though he wanted to see them, according to 1:23-2:4? How do you know when it is right to hurt someone's feelings and when it is wrong?
7. Pray for our church, that we would all strive to be restored and restore others in Christ. Consider attending the church prayer meeting every Sunday at 7 pm. Register at the church website at www.apollobaptist.org (registration renewal required this week as the old link has expired).

Church Bible Reading Plan

Numbers 2-4

August Memory Verses: Numbers 14:17-19

Acts 2:38-39

³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

BEFORE Sunday Night Prayer Meeting:

If you have not done so already, please register for the next quarter’s Zoom meetings from the www.apollobaptist.org home page by clicking the image for the Prayer Meeting. Register with your name and email address. This new registration will last through 12/25/2022. Click on the emailed Zoom link at the time of the Prayer Meeting.

Sunday Night Prayer Meeting:

- PRAYING for our church to reach college students with the gospel during Welcome Week at ASU West.

Pray for Our Church Family Needs:

- PRAY for missions and missionaries:
Andy & Lindsay M. in Spain, Comfort J. in Nigeria, Luke P. in Maricopa, Arizona, Nathan & Becky F. in Indonesia, Sylvia M. at ASU West, Arizona, Doug & Cheryl D. in Thailand, and Jules S. in Thailand
- PRAY for all our students: elementary, middle school, high school, and college. No matter whether they are in the classroom, an on-line setting, or a home school setting our students are forming minds that need to focus on Christ.
- Family & friends of church members who need salvation or to renew their relationship with Jesus
Marge D. – Salvation for son, Matthew
- Families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:
David T. & family (wife), Louise R. (husband), Ed G. & family (mother), family of Phyllis W., Paul W. & family (aunt), Anne W.-B. & family (husband), family of Joan S., and Sherri O. (uncle)
- Those struggling with on-going health and other issues:
Michelle L. (health issues), Mary R. (dialysis needed until kidney transplant), Debbie B. (health issues), Leon V. (chemo & other health issues), Twila D. (stroke), Wayne D. (declining health), Ken & Darlene R. (health issues), John E. (eyelid cancer), Debbie P. (bronchitis/surgery recovery), and Ann C.-W. (health issues)
- Others that you are aware of