



TITLE | Responding to Hurtful People
SERIES | Beyond Our Strength
TEXT | 2 Corinthians 1:12-2:4
BY | Bob Kerrey
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SERMON NOTES

2 Corinthians 1:12 For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you. **13** For we are not writing to you anything other than what you read and understand and I hope you will fully understand—**14** just as you did partially understand us—that on the day of our Lord Jesus you will boast of us as we will boast of you. **15** Because I was sure of this, I wanted to come to you first, so that you might have a second experience of grace. **16** I wanted to visit you on my way to Macedonia, and to come back to you from Macedonia and have you send me on my way to Judea. **17** Was I vacillating when I wanted to do this? Do I make my plans according to the flesh, ready to say "Yes, yes" and "No, no" at the same time? *ESV*

BIG IDEA:

Text questions during the sermon: 623-850-8809

2 Corinthians 2:4 For I wrote to you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you. *ESV*

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

In what ways have you had to deal with hurtful people, especially those who are professing believers?

Tuesday:

Read 2 Corinthians 1:12-2:4. The Corinthians had been hurtful to the apostle Paul. How would you characterize his response to them in this passage?

Wednesday:

Read 2 Corinthians 1:13-14. Here Paul mentions "the day of our Lord Jesus" which is another name for the Judgment Seat of Christ, where all believers will be judged according to our actions and motives, not for gain or loss of eternal salvation, but for gain or loss of reward. Paul had mentioned this previously in 1 Corinthians 3:13-15; 4:5. Why is this important to keep in mind in dealing with hurtful people?

Thursday:

Read 2 Corinthians 2:4. Is it normal to struggle in dealing with hurtful people? How much did Paul struggle? What specific thing are we to avoid in our response to such people? What are we to pursue?

Friday:

Specifically, how can you be helpful to the hurtful? Ask the Lord to show you.

Daily Prayer:

Lord this is a hurtful world. Give me the strength and wisdom to respond to hurtful people in helpful way. Today and in the days ahead, show me who, show me when, show me how. Amen.