

↓ **THIS WAY UP** ↓
(2 Corinthians)

Pembroke Bible Chapel
Mark Floyd – 2010 Feb 14
Series No. MF-2COR-26

BOASTING IN THE LORD

(2 Corinthians 10:11-18)

- There was no inconsistency or insincerity in Paul's letters to Corinth; he warned that although he was lowly during his past visits, he would boldly address issues of sin, in person, if necessary (1,10,11)
- His critics were foolish and worldly; they were boasting and putting others down in order to exalt themselves (12)
- Paul refused to stoop to the level of his detractors; he would continue to operate within the sphere that God had appointed him to, which included the Corinthians (12,13)
- He had not overstepped the bounds of his authority in his letters – he was an apostle to the church at Corinth (14,15)
- Paul was not meddling and boasting in someone else's work; he was tending to matters that God had appointed him to at Corinth and beyond (15,16)
- His service (including his letters) was commended and approved by God; he gloried in Christ, not himself (17,18)

Application

Consider the following in the context of your behaviour at home, work/school and church:

- Do you judge others by mere externals (“image”; looks, dress, personality, worldly position/power) or are you able to see “the inner person”?
- Is what you say to others consistent and sincere?
- Do gentleness, meekness and humility characterize your demeanour?
- Do you build yourself up by comparing yourself to others and putting others down?
- How do you react when others put you down?
- When others fall into sin, do you correctly discern when you should get involved in addressing the problem? Do you meddle in other people’s business? What is your “God-appointed sphere”?
- Do you submit yourself to those that God has appointed over you (parents, teachers, your “boss”, government, elders) or do you rebel against them and “run them down” behind their backs?
- Is your work (at home, job/school, church) commended and approved by God?