

RISKING ALL FOR LOVE**Having Nothing, and Yet Possessing Everything****2 Corinthians 6:1—7:1**

For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.” 2 Cor. 6:16b

Day 1: Read 2 Corinthians 6:1.

1. Summarize what Paul means by “God’s grace” (vs. 1). (Review 2 Cor. 5:17–21.)
2. How can someone “receive God’s grace in vain”? (See 2 Cor. 5:15; Phil. 2:21; 2 Tim. 4:10)
3. How can we avoid receiving it in vain? How do you know you are on the right track? (Compare Gal. 2:20 with the verses in question #2.)

Day 2: Read 2 Corinthians 6:2.

4. In verse 2, quoting Isaiah 49:8, what does Paul stress? What gives verse 2b its note of urgency?
5. If now is the time of God’s favor and now is the day of salvation, then what do we learn about “now” as opposed to, say, tomorrow? What warning is implicit here? (Heb. 3:12–13)
6. Concretely, what does it mean to you to know God’s favor? How does this affect what you focus on?

Day 3: Read 2 Corinthians 6:3–10.

7. Summarize Paul’s view of his “ministry” (vs. 3). (2 Cor. 3:6, 18; 4:1; 5:18, 20)
8. In Paul’s eyes, and rightly so, his ministry cannot be separated from his message (2 Cor. 5:18–19). What then might be a result of his ministry being discredited (vs. 3)?

9. Read through the list in verses 4–10. According to Paul, how does God display his power most clearly—through deliverance from suffering, through miracles, or through something else?

Day 4: Read 2 Corinthians 6:11–16.

10. In verse 13 Paul asks his readers to open their hearts to him. What lies at the heart of Paul's concern for the Corinthians? (Reflect on 1 Cor. 13:1–3.)
11. Examine your own heart and ask God to show you how you close yourself off from others. Why is this kind of self-examination so important? (See 1 Jn. 4:20.)
12. Why would two animals be yoked together? How is their behavior affected? How do the questions in verses 14b–16a help make Paul's point in verse 14a?

Day 5: Read 2 Corinthians 6:14—7:1.

13. What kinds of things are you yoked to? Which of our culture's values do you share? To what do you devote time, energy, money? What is necessary for your happiness? What do you need in addition to Jesus?
14. As Christians what is our only yoke (vs.14)? (Consider especially 6:16b and 7:1.)
15. What does it mean to be holy? (vs. 17) Why does this matter to God?
16. Which statement is true and why, (1) or (2)? (Use a verse to support your answer.)
 - (1) Holiness comes through exercising will power and self-control.
 - (2) Holiness comes through worship.