

“GOOD RELATIONSHIPS & BAD PARTNERSHIPS”

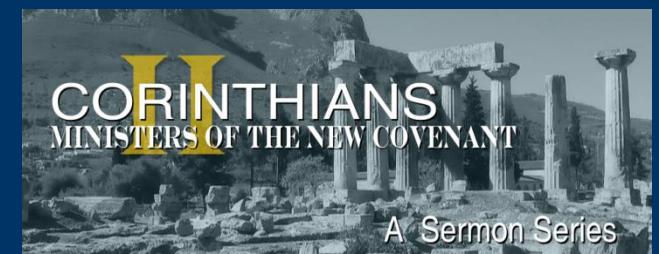
(*2 Corinthians 6:11-18*)

Expository Sermon of II Corinthians - Sermon 12

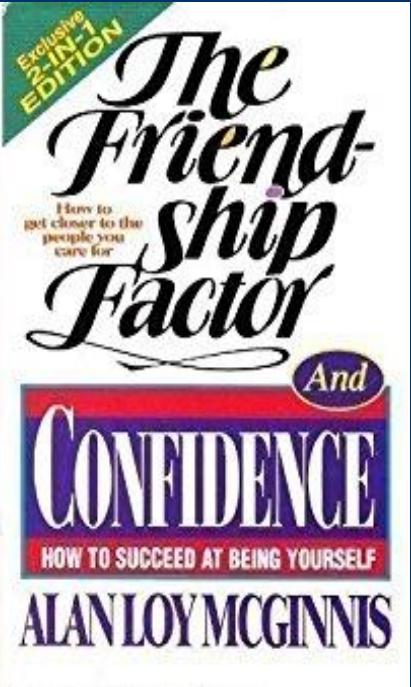
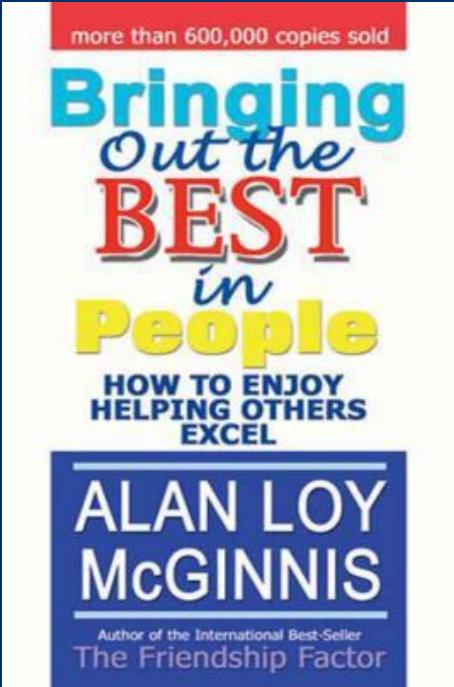
Speaker: Rev. Bobby Lam

Date: October 15, 2017

Place: Hope Community Baptist Church



INTRODUCTION:



If you train your mind to search for the positive things about other people, you will be surprised at how many good things you can observe in them and comment upon.

— Alan Loy McGinnis —

AZ QUOTES

I. WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

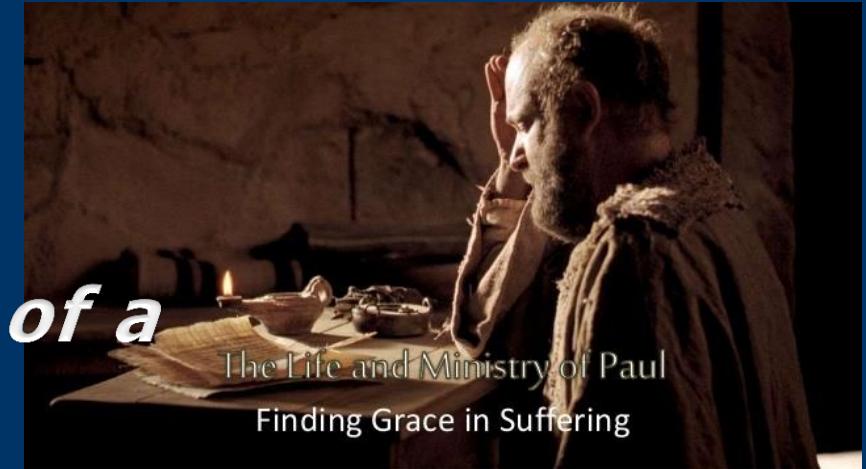
Paul's relationship with the Corinthians

First, He addresses the problem of a lack of understanding. *(2 Cor. 1:13-14)*

Second, He was accused of the problem of indecisive and talking out of both sides of his mouth. *(2 Cor. 1: 17-18)*

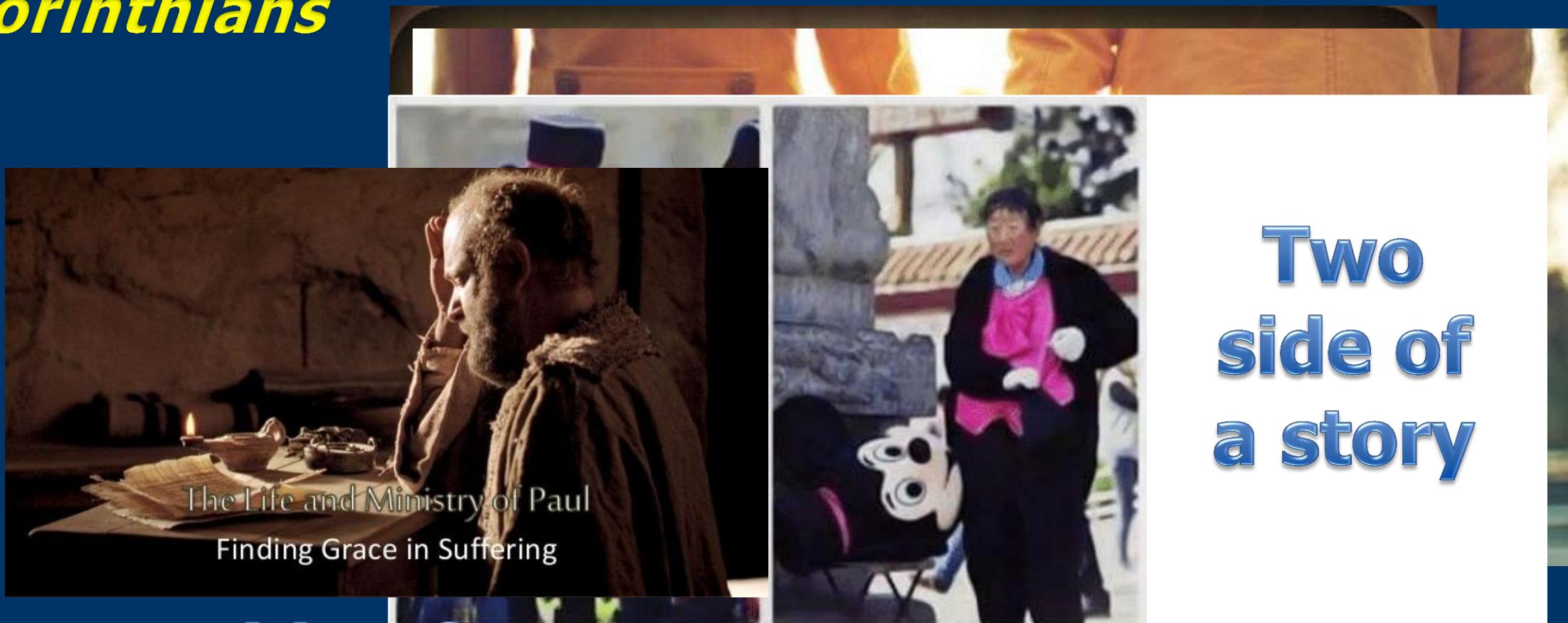
Third, He was accused of the problem of being suspected of exercising dictatorial control. *(2 Cor. 1: 23-24)*

Fourth, He deviates and speaks about an effective ministry. *(2 Cor. 2:14 to 6:10)*



I. WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

Paul's relationship with the Corinthians



Two side of a story

II. WHEN IS IT RIGHT TO BE FREE?

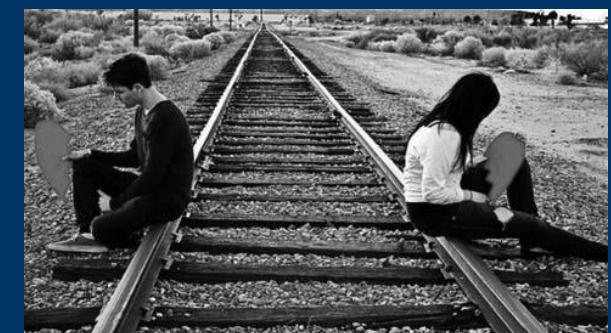
Regarding relationships in the ministry

2 Cor. 6:11 *We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you.*



2 Cor. 6:12 *We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us.*

2 Cor. 6:13 *As a fair exchange — I speak as to my children — open wide your hearts also.*

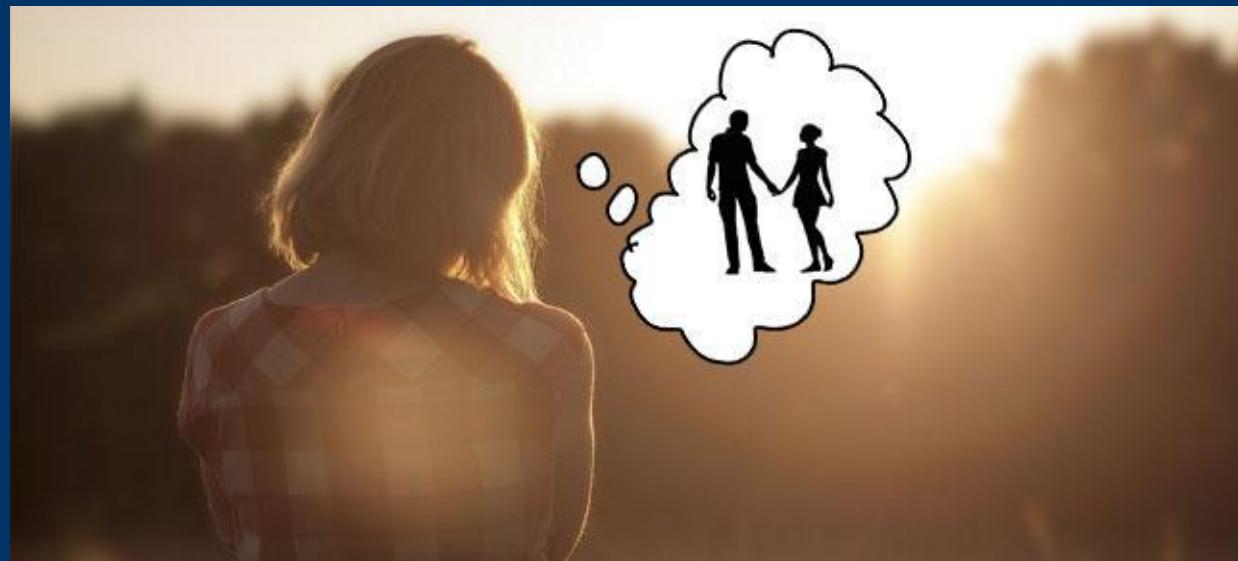


III. WHEN IS IT WRONG TO BE BOUND?

This is the opposite side of the relational coin.



2 Cor. 6:14a *Do not be yoked together with unbelievers.*



III. WHEN IS IT WRONG TO BE BOUND?

It is not a prohibition against associations or friendships with unbelievers



1 Cor. 5:9 *I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people — 10 not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world.*



III. WHEN IS IT WRONG TO BE BOUND?

Nor is Paul referring to a marriage already established in which one person has become a Christian.



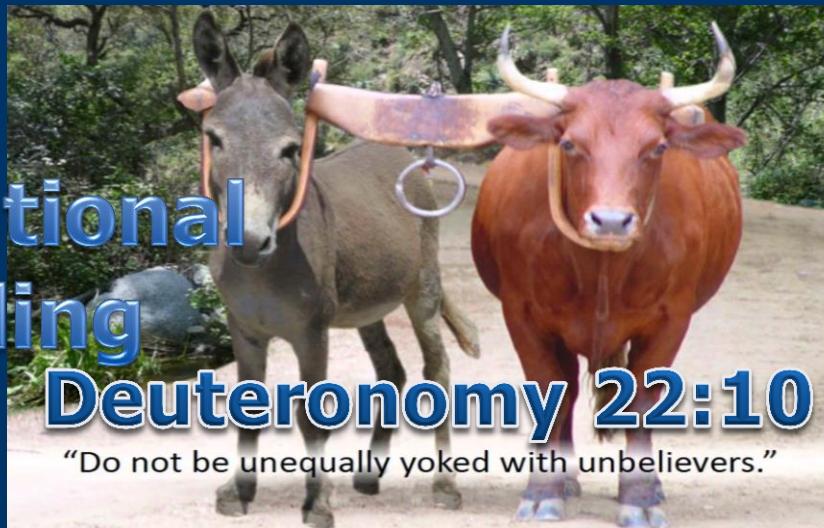
1 Cor. 17:13 *And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him. 14 For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.*

III. WHEN IS IT WRONG TO BE BOUND?

This is the opposite side of the relational coin.



2 Cor. 6:14a *Do not be yoked together with unbelievers.*



**Occupational
Bonding**

Deuteronomy 22:10

"Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers."



Leviticus 19:19

unequally yoked

**Marital
Bonding**

**Becoming yoked in a partnership with an
unbeliever is prohibited.**

III. WHEN IS IT WRONG TO BE BOUND?

How close do two people have to be to form a bond?



2 Cor. 6:14b For what do righteousness and wickedness have in **common**? Or what **fellowship** can light have with darkness? **15** What **harmony** is there between Christ and Belial? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? **16** What **agreement** is there between the temple of God and idols?



Any thing that might jeopardize your Christian walk or your witness should be avoided.

III. WHEN IS IT WRONG TO BE BOUND?

*What is the underlying reason
for this prohibition?*



2 Cor. 6:16b 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." **17** Therefore, "Come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you." **18** And, "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."



CONCLUSION:



Undoubtedly, what we've discussed in this lesson has rocked the boat in many of your relationships. So, here are a couple of guidelines to steer you out of the choppy waters.

- A) *Unless there is an emotional bond, we cannot be free in a relationship.***
- B) *Unless there is spiritual freedom, we dare not be bound in a partnership.***



CG DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1.** *If you are to leave this world soon, what would you think would be the most important thing you have achieved in your life?*
- 2.** *How does relationship similar with ministry?*
- 3.** *Why does Paul describe his relationship with the Corinthians lopsided? How was it lopsided?*
- 4.** *What does it mean to be unequally yoke? What was the Jewish image or definition of unequally yoke?*
- 5.** *What are the reasons that God prohibit occupational and marital partnership with unbelievers?*



Scripture References:

2 Corinthians 6:11-18