

## Life Group Notes

### Qualities of a good leader (2 Corinthians 2:1-17)

**Scriptures:** 1 Corinthians 5; 15:1-2; 2 Corinthians 1:12—2:17; 10:4; Eph. 6:10-12; Prov. 22:6.

1. What qualities are important in a leader? Would these qualities be different in a Christian leader to a secular leader?
2. Steve said that Paul's aim wasn't to be impressive, but to point people to the One who is impressive—Jesus! How important a lesson is this for us all?
3. Read 2 Cor. 1:12—2:4. Why was Paul criticised? In which way did the Corinthians misunderstand Paul's motives? Have you ever attempted to do the right thing, with good motives, yet your best intentions backfired?
4. Paul was emotionally vulnerable (see 2:4). Do you feel that this is a strength or a weakness in Christian leadership?
5. Read 2:5-11 (see also 1 Cor. 5). Do you believe in tough love? How might this be practiced in the home, and in the church?
6. Steve said, "Love without discipline encourages a self-indulgent life. Discipline without love encourages bitterness and rebellion." Thoughts?
7. Paul was very conscious of the devil's schemes (see v11). Are you equally aware? Is there also a danger of being overly interested?
8. Paul preached the gospel in Troas (v12). What is the gospel according to Paul (see 1 Cor. 15:1-2)? Why are the words attributed to St. Francis inadequate? ("Preach the gospel at all times; when necessary, use words.")
9. Paul had an open door in Troas (v13), but he still had no peace of mind. Do you find it difficult to discern which 'open door' to walk through in life? Share examples with your group.
10. Paul was not like others who 'peddled the word of God for profit' (v17). What should a Christian leader's position be to money? (see also 1 Tim. 6).