

2 Corinthians 6

*Don't nullify God's wonderful grace by hitching yourself to Godlessness;
boast in Paul's paradoxical God-centred pattern of ministry*

The problem:

¹ Do not to receive God's grace in vain

¹⁴ Do not be yoked together with unbelievers

The purpose:

^{5:12} We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart.

1. Pushing for gospel response
2. Commending genuine ministry
3. Appealing for openness
4. Pushing for gospel response

1. Pushing for gospel response

- Urging
- From the Scriptures
- God's relationship with his Servant at heart of salvation
- NOW

2. Commending genuine ministry

- What removes obstacles and proves ministry genuine?
 - o Afflictions x 8 'in' plurals
 - o Method x 8 'in' singulars
 - o Mixed experience x 3 'through' X and Y
 - o Appearance & reality x 6 'as' X 'yet' Y

3. Appealing for openness

¹¹ We ... opened wide our hearts to you.

¹² We are not withholding our affection from you,
but you are withholding yours from us.

¹³ ... open wide your hearts also.

4. Pushing for gospel response

- Urging – x 5 questions, X versus Y
- From the Scriptures
- God's new covenant relationship with us (v16, 18)
- 'Therefore, Come out!' (v17)