

**“But we have this treasure in
jars of clay, to show that the
surpassing power belongs to
God and not to us.”**

2 Corinthians 4:7



Christ In You

2 Corinthians 13:1-14

New Baptist Church
August 16, 2026



Paul's Second Missionary Journey (Acts 15:36-18:21 - 50AD to 53AD)



50-52 AD: Paul at Corinth (Acts 18)

53 AD: Paul Preaches in Ephesus

54 AD: While in Ephesus, Paul receives news of problems in Corinth

- *Paul Writes “1 Corinthians”*

- *Paul Travels to Corinth*

- *The Visit Did Not Go Well*

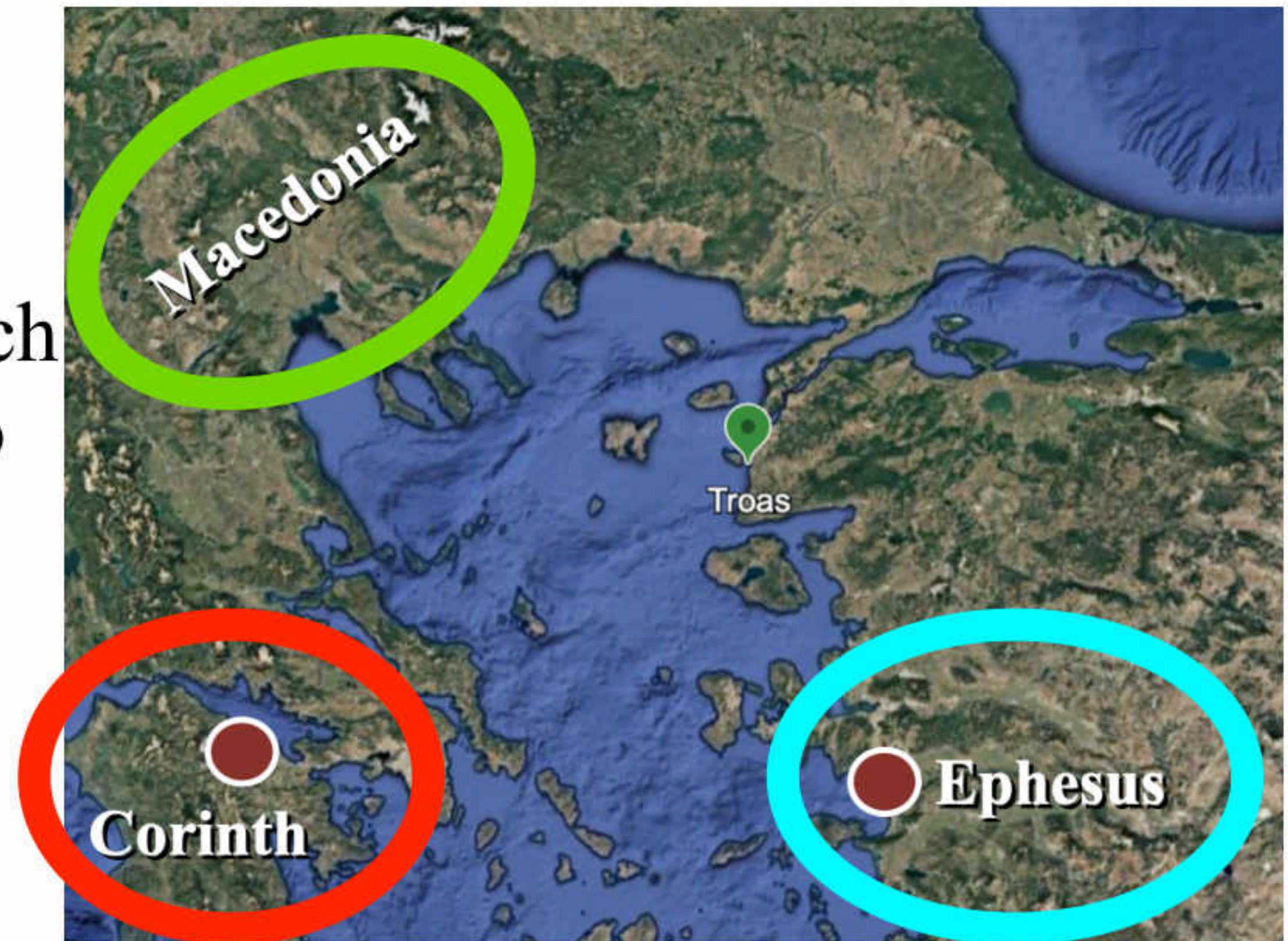
- *Paul returns to Ephesus*

55 AD: Paul writes another letter to the church at Corinth, calling them to repentance (we do not have this letter)

56 AD: Paul leaves Ephesus and waits in Macedonia for word about Corinth.

56 AD: While in Macedonia, Paul receives word that the church of Corinth has repented and wants to see Paul.

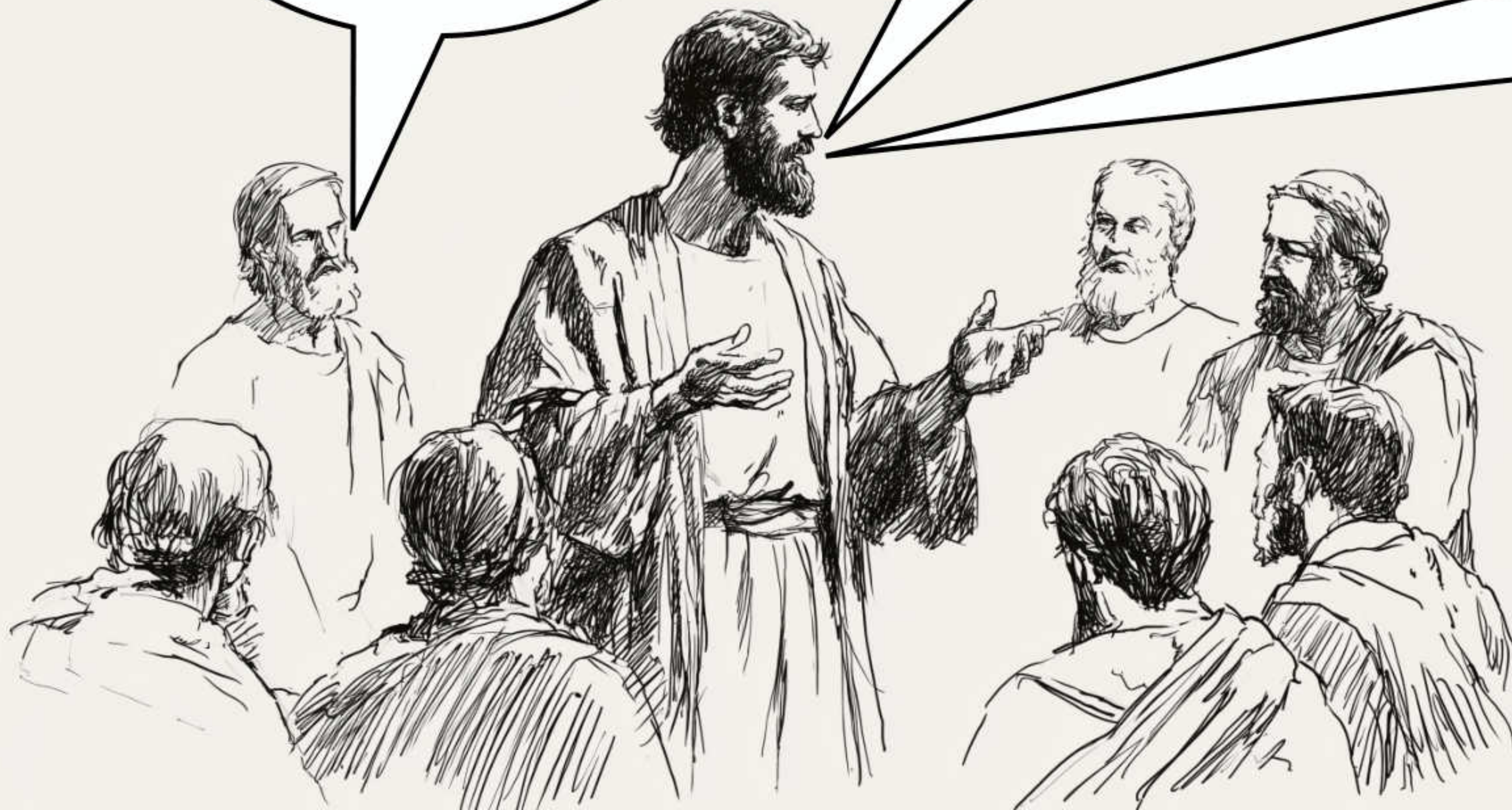
- *Paul rejoices and writes 2 Corinthians.*



Are you for
real?

Yes. The evidence is
Christ in you, and the presence
of Christ demonstrated in my
weakness.

It is not you
who should be
examining me, but
rather you should be
examining
yourselves.



2 Corinthians 13

“1 This is the third time I am coming to you. Every charge must be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 2 I warned those who sinned before and all the others, and I warn them now while absent, as I did when present on my second visit, that if I come again I will not spare them— **3 since you seek proof that Christ is speaking in me.** He is not weak in dealing with you, but is powerful among you. (Christ is in you!) 4 For he was crucified in weakness, but lives by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but in dealing with you we will live with him by the power of God. (Christ is in me!)

“But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.” (2 Corinthians 4:7).



2 Corinthians 13

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5 Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test! 6 I hope you will find out that we have not failed the test.

“Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith.” (2 Corinthians 13:5)

The Necessity of Self-Examination. (Jonathan Edwards)

- We should examine ourselves because sin not only corrupts our behavior; it corrupts our ability to recognize our behavior as sinful.

The First Three Questions of Edwards 76 Questions for Self-Examination:

- Do I manifest an attitude of openness toward God that would invite him to “Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts”? (Psalm 139:23-24)
- Is my heart eager to learn of “any wicked way” in me?
- Are my motives for self-examination correct—that I might be led “in the way everlasting”?

“Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith.” (2 Corinthians 13:5)

Question 1: Do You Confess Jesus Christ as Your Lord and Savior?

Romans 10:9 “because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Question 2: In Your Need, Do You Trust Jesus?

Our needs reveal our trusts. What we turn to, depend upon, and expect to sustain us reveals where our trust and faith are actually resting.

John 6:35 “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”

Question 3: Is Christ in you? *How does one know?*

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- **Christ in you is the Gospel Promise** (Fellowship with God and Enjoying Him forever).
- **Christ in you is fulfilled through the presence of the Holy Spirit**
- **Christ in you is revealed when Christ comes out of you when you are weak.**

Paul's weakness did not disprove the presence of Christ; it became the setting in which the power of Christ was revealed.



If Christ is in you, then when you are squeezed or broken, what comes out of you? Increasingly Christ.

Not only does weakness expose what a person trusts in, but it also becomes the place where the presence and power of Christ are on display.

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Question 2: In Your Need, Do You Trust Jesus?

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2 Corinthians 13:7 But we pray to God that you may not do wrong—not that we may appear to have met the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. 8 For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. 9 For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. Your restoration is what we pray for. 10 For this reason I write these things while I am away from you, that when I come I may not have to be severe in my use of the authority that the Lord has given me for building up and not for tearing down.

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- **Christ in you is revealed when Christ comes out of you when you are weak.**
- **Christ in you is revealed when Christ does not leave you.** You are never left alone; through His Spirit, He continues to call you back to Him. (Through the Holy Spirit in you, Christ convicts, calls, restores, and draws you to Himself).

2 Corinthians 13

11 Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.
12 Greet one another with a holy kiss. 13 All the saints greet you.

14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

