

December 13, 2020 2 Corinthians 6:11–7:1

1. Read 2 Corinthians 6:11-13. Which describe you and your relationships?

A. Do you tend to be the first to open your heart wide to others? Is this usually reciprocated?

B. Do you tend to stay closed and reserved with others? How has that worked out?

2. How does this quote resonate with you? "When our hearts are open to the wrong relationships we'll tend to be closed to right relationships.... We begin to be influenced by a person, a group, or a way of thinking.... And we close our hearts to the very people we ought to welcome."

3. Read 6:14-7:1. What might it look like in your life to "avoid being unequally yoked" with unbelievers and at the same time be "a friend to sinners" as Jesus was?

4. When we think of our relationships, work, and hobbies, what does it mean to "come out from them and be separate?"

5. Discuss this quote: *"Far too often we want to just kind of dabble with sin, but God's word says deal with it ruthlessly."* How might holiness be made more visible and real in your life?

- 6. Read verses 14-16 and ask this question, "What might compel me to do what Paul says here?"
 - A. How does the reminder of our identity compel us?
 - B. How does the promise that God will be a Father to us compel us?

7. CS Lewis said, "It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We're half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."

A. How are you too easily pleased? Identify one mud pie you are making in a slum that crowds your heart. Share it with your group.

B. Take turns sharing what God's offer of infinite joy looks like to each of you?