

GOD IS MORE THAN
Enough

College Group Guide





PREPARATION

■ STUDY

Spend the week studying 2 Corinthians 2:5–11.

■ LANDING POINT

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.



INTRODUCTION

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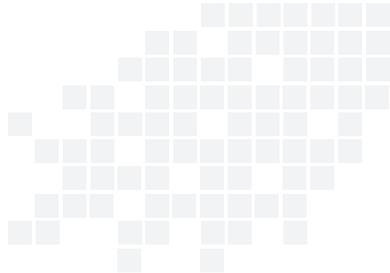
SEEK RESTORATION

Forgiveness is hard. Why? Because when someone sins against us, it can cause us great pain. We remember their offense, and the pain it causes can linger with us for a very long time if we don't deal with it.

This week your group will look at how the Corinthian church dealt with someone's sin through church discipline. Paul had forgiven the offender and called the believers in the Corinthian church to do the same. He said, "That's enough. Their punishment is sufficient. Now it's time to restore them."

Paul gives us three steps to restoration that we can use in one-to-one relationships and in community:

- *Forgive.* We are to forgive as we have been forgiven by Christ (Matthew 6:14–15; 18:35; Colossians 3:13). We reflect Christ most when we forgive.
- *Comfort.* Don't see restoration as a time to make someone feel worse about their sin. Paul told the Galatians to restore a sinner "with gentleness" (6:1).

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- *Reaffirm.* Make clear your love and commitment to someone as a brother or sister in Christ. This kind of love seems crazy to the world around us, but it's the love that seeks restoration and doesn't give up on someone.

BE ON GUARD

Restoring this offender was a test in obedience for the Corinthians. Obedience to God meant learning to love like Christ and seeking restoration. Being obedient would strengthen the bond of love in their community. It would also be living out the example of Christ, who forgave those who sinned against Him. Being disobedient would play right into the hands of Satan's attempts to divide their community.

We have an enemy who opposes us. He will do anything to turn your heart away from God. He tries to do that in each of your lives and in communities of believers. Like the Corinthians, we need to be on guard against our enemy and his deceptive schemes. We also need to look to Jesus. He won the victory over Satan at the cross, and He will win the ultimate victory over Satan, sin and death when He returns to restore all creation. The goal of the gospel is restoration today in relationships and in communities, and full restoration when Christ returns.



QUESTIONS

Answer the following questions as a group. Remember to be respectful by not talking down or over others.

READ: *2 Corinthians 2:5-11. Recall a time when you had to forgive someone and it was hard. Why was it hard?*

Q: *Explain why it's necessary to confront sin and deal with it, especially in community. What happens if you neglect to do this?*

Q: *Why is it important in the fight against Satan to remember that Christ has—and will—get the final victory over him?*

Q: *Who do you need to confront, forgive or repent? How will you do it?*

End in prayer.

ENDNOTES:

1. Jaquelle Crowe, "Adulthood to the Glory of God," *Desiring God*, March 30, 2017, <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/adulthood-to-the-glory-of-god>.