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Lighthouse Bible Church

Sunday, October 11, 2026

2 Corinthians 12:11-13

Title: I am a nobody

Today:

- **Foolish again, but humble nonetheless**
- **What are the signs of a true apostle?**
- **Not a burden to anyone**

**Being “foolish” is something Paul says
readers compelled him to be (2
Corinthians 12:11). He’s made this same
point repeatedly about their penchant
for listening to those they should not.**

**Remember that the Lord did not call a
bunch of people of high repute: 1
Corinthians 1:26-31**

Remember how much Paul has warned his readers about false apostles? Paul's references to the “most eminent” apostles (2 Corinthians 12:11) is a nod to the selfish men some were listening to.

Calling himself a nobody (2 Corinthians 12:11) is not only Paul's humble ways at work, but he also might have been reworking a term the false apostles used for him. Remember how he wasn't a gifted speaker?

**That humble nature is a Christlike
quality, remember.**

Matthew 20:20-28, Philippians 2:5-11

What are the signs of a true apostle?

**What are the signs, wonders, and
miracles Paul is referring to in 2
Corinthians 12:12?**

**God did miracles and signs and wonders
via His Son in the sight of many: Acts
2:22-24, Acts 2:37-47**

**Many who saw the acts of the apostles
believed in the Lord: Acts 5:7-16**

**Even as the miracles and wonders took
place, the apostles had serious
opposition: Acts 14:1-10**

Paul, an apostle, mentioned signs and wonders that God did through him:

Romans 15:15-21

**The author of Hebrews asserts that God
confirmed their great salvation with
signs they saw: Hebrews 2:1-4**

**The rhetorical question in 2 Corinthians
12:13 is sarcasm. He did not treat this
church as inferior at all, but his point is
that he might as well have given they
treated him.**

Notice that Paul dealt with the qualifications of an apostle, not the rights of an apostle. His aim was not to abuse his rights, but instead to serve via works + example.

**Paul had rights, but he did not seek to
lord that over others: 1 Corinthians
9:11-16**

Neither did the apostle John: 3 John 1-7

**Paul “robbed” other churches for the
sake of those at Corinth. Here’s another
reminder of his sarcasm: 2 Corinthians
11:5-10**

Paul was of no real repute, and we aren't either. He knew where his bread was buttered (with our Lord), and we should too, but remember the false apostles credited themselves instead.

The apostles and their acts are unique in nature + confirmed the ministry of the true apostles. Consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession with the best miracle of all.

**Paul sought to make sure the church at
Corinth was not burdened in their
support of him. Consider Christ, who
made it so we are ultimately
unburdened as well in an infinitely
greater sense.**

**The concept of being unburdened will
come up again next week, as will Paul's
sarcasm. For now, consider what it
means to love one another.**