

URGENTLY DEVOTED

CONSIDERING THE SACRIFICE OF SERVICE

2 CORINTHIANS 11:22-33

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Compass Bible Church • May 23 & 24, 2026 • 2 Corinthians, week 49 • Msg. 26-19

1. Rethink _____

(vv.30-33)

2. Examine _____

(vv.22-23a)

3. Consider _____

(vv.23b-29)

2 Cor. 11:22 *Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I.* ***23*** *Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death.* ***24*** *Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one.* ***25*** *Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea;* ***26*** *on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers;* ***27*** *in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.* ***28*** *And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.* ***29*** *Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?* ***30*** *If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.* ***31*** *The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying.* ***32*** *At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me,* ***33*** *but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.* *(ESV)*

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Matthew 20:25-28** and **John 13:3-5.** What helps explain why Christians can increasingly find Christlike humility and service more compelling than the world's definitions of greatness?

2. Read **2 Corinthians 13:5**; **Galatians 6:4**; and **1 Corinthians 11:28.** Why is regular self-examination not unhealthy introspection, but an important part of pursuing spiritual growth and faithfulness?

3. Read **Luke 9:23-25.** Carrying a cross was public and painful. What are some ways following Christ costs us publicly, and how does this image prepare us to expect those painful costs?

4. Read **Hebrews 11:24-27.** What modern comforts, ambitions, distractions, or fears most tempt you to lose focus on Christ and prioritize temporary rewards over his kingdom priorities?

5. Read **Acts 16:22-25.** Responses like Paul and Silas's don't emerge from nowhere, they emerge from what's been built beforehand. What habits of heart, cultivated before suffering arrives, make their kind of response possible?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 22-27 – **Making Strategic Sacrifices**
Msg. 21-23 – **Saul: A New Purpose**
Msg. 21-19 – **Showing Up for Divine Appointments**
Msg. 20-37 – **The Fruit-Producing Relationship**
Msg. 19-25 – **Purpose Fulfilled**
Msg. 07-09 – **Living Life with the Hope of a New Purpose**
Msg. 13-33 – 13-35 – **ATAPAT: Our Struggle to Say Anything, Anyplace, Anytime**

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

May 24th.....*1Chr.11-13 & Jn.9:1-23*
May 25th.....*1Chr.14-16 & Jn.9:24-41*
May 26th.....*1Chr.17-19 & Jn.10:1-21*
May 27th.....*1Chr.20-22 & Jn.10:22-42*
May 28th.....*1Chr.23-25 & Jn.11:1-17*
May 29th.....*1Chr.26-27 & Jn.11:18-46*
May 30th.....*1Chr.28-29 & Jn.11:47-57*
May 31st.....*2Chr.1-3 & Jn.12:1-19*

Here are some books that may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Edwards, Jonathan. ***Charity and Its Fruits.*** Banner of Truth, 1969.
Engstrom, Ted W. ***The Making of a Christian Leader.*** Zondervan, 1976.
Guinness, Os. ***The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of Your Life.*** Thomas Nelson, 1998.
Laniak, Timothy S. ***Shepherds After My Own Heart: Pastoral Traditions and Leadership in the Bible.*** IVP, 2006.
MacArthur, John. ***Twelve Ordinary Men: How the Master Shaped His Disciples for Greatness.*** Thomas Nelson, 2002.
Piper, John. ***21 Servants of Sovereign Joy: Faithful, Flawed, and Fruitful.*** Crossway, 2018.
Sanders, J. Oswald. ***Spiritual Leadership: Principles of Excellence for Every Believer.*** Moody Press, 1994.
Sauls, Scott. ***From Weakness to Strength: Vulnerabilities that Can Bring Out the Best.*** David C Cook, 2017.
Spurgeon, Charles H. ***Lectures to My Students.*** Hendrickson Publications, 2010.
_____. ***The Soul Winner.*** Whitaker House, 1995.
Stott, John R. W. ***Basic Christian Leadership.*** InterVarsity Press, 2006.
Swindoll, Charles R. ***Improving Your Serve: The Art of Unselfish Living.*** Word, 2002.
Wiersbe, Warren W. ***Living with the Giants: The Lives of Great Men of the Faith.*** Baker Books, 1993.