

“Examining Ourselves”

Douglas Allison

August 2, 2026

2 Corinthians 13:5: “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!” (ESV)

Big Idea: Examine Yourself

How to Examine Yourself According to Second Corinthians

1. Sharing in Christ’s Sufferings and Comfort (1:5)
2. A Clean Conscience (1:12-13)
3. The Spirit in the Heart (1:22; 5:5)
4. Obedience (2:9)
5. Being Drawn to Christ Through Preaching of Christ (2:15)
6. An Understanding Mind (3:14-16)
7. Personal Transformation (3:18)
8. Perception of the Light of the Knowledge of the Glory of God in the Face of Jesus Christ (3:15-4:6)
9. A Spirit of Faith According to Scripture (4:13-14)
10. Walking by Faith, not by Sight (5:7)
11. Knowing the Fear of the Lord (5:11)
12. Being Controlled by the Love of Christ (5:14-15)
13. Grief for Sin with Repentance (7:10-13)

How Not to Examine Yourself According to Second Corinthians

1. Personal Comfort and Success (1:1-7)
2. Personal Wisdom (1:12)
3. Ability to Teach and Persuade from Scripture (2:17)
4. A Practice of Reading Scripture (3:14-15)
5. Attending Worship (3:15)
6. Confidence in One’s Profession of Faith (4:3-4)
7. A Personal Sense of Peace with God (5:18-21)
8. Grief for Sin Without Repentance (7:10)
9. Positive Comparison to Others (10:12)
10. Successful and Fruitful Ministry (11:12-15)
11. Appearance of Goodness (11:13-14)
12. Family Heritage (11:22)
13. Personal Strength and Abilities (11:30)