

## Second Corinthians 6:1-14

### 6:1 –

“working together” (ESV) or “As God’s fellow workers” from **sunergountes** the present active of **sunergeo** which means “to work with someone, to cooperate, to work together”. Although the Greek text does not say “with him” or “with God” Paul is making a reference to his working with God not Paul’s working with the Corinthians. This is supported by:

- 1 Corinthians 3:9, “We are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, God’s building.”
- 2 Corinthians 5:20 where Paul calls himself and his ministry team “ambassadors” that God was using to make his appeal through.

**6:2** – Today is the day for the church to do its work. Today is the day for believers to use their gifts.

### 6:3 –

“**stumbling block**” – the Greek word means to strike against and refers to an occasion of stumbling. It means to do something that will cause others to stumble.

“**discredited**” – “to find a defect, to find fault with, to blame someone.” This word often indicates ridicule and mockery that results in disgrace

### 6:4-5 –

“As servants...we commend (**sunistanontes**= “to bring together, to recommend, to commend”) ourselves...in great endurance (**hupomone**= “carry a weight beyond the point of endurance, to continue after others have quit”) or, in great patience Paul endured difficult situations to do the work of an ambassador.

The list begins with three groups of three trials each:

First: afflictions, necessities, distresses which are general hardships

Second: stripes, imprisonments, tumults which are persecutions

Third: labors, sleeplessness, hunger which are voluntary, self-inflicted acts of commitment.

### 6:6 –

Fourth: purity, understanding, patience, kindness

Fifth: Holy Spirit, sincere love, (6:7) truthful speech, power of God

### 6:7-10 –

Weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left

Begin a list of contrast:

- Glory and dishonor
- Bad report and good report
- Genuine, regarded as imposters
- Known, regarded as unknown
- Dying, yet live on
- Beaten, yet not killed
- Sorrowful, yet always rejoicing
- Poor, yet making many rich
- Having nothing, yet possessing everything

**6:11-13** – Paul and his ministry team have been honest, open and willing to commit to the Corinthians. Now he wants them to do the same. He wants the Corinthians to respond honestly and commit to the relationship.

**6:14** –

Problem: The Corinthians have yoked themselves together with unbelievers.

The “unbelievers” in context are the false teachers.

The unbelievers the Corinthians are to avoid are the corrupt leaders in the church.

Contrast:

**Corinthian Believers**

Righteousness

Light

Christ

Believer

Temple of God

**False Teachers in the Church**

Wickedness

Darkness

Belial

Unbeliever

Temple of Idols (false philosophy)

not common

no fellowship

no harmony

not common

no agreement