**Worksheet 1: Overview of 2 Corinthians**

**Major Themes**

*Read through the entire letter in one sitting and then answer the next few questions.*

1. Why was this letter written? (Is the author addressing problems? Is his tone encouraging or confrontational? Does the author seem to have a primary purpose?)
2. What do you see as the primary themes of this letter? (If you can’t decide on one, identify two or three prominent themes.)
3. What topics from the text are you excited about discussing in the next 2 weeks?
4. What questions do you have after reading through this book?

**Outline of 2 Corinthians[[1]](#footnote-1)**

1. INTRODUCTION (1:1-11)
   1. Salutation (1:1-2)
   2. Prayer of Thanksgiving (1:3-7)
   3. Explanation of Paul's Thanksgiving (1:8-11)
2. PAUL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CORINTHIANS (1:12-2:11)
   1. Paul's Pure Conduct (1:12-14)
   2. Paul's Change in Plans (1:15-22)
   3. The Reason for the Change in Plans (1:23-2:4)
   4. Forgiveness to the Repentant Sinner (2:5—11)
3. PAUL'S DEFENSE OF HIS MINISTRY (2:12-7:16)
   1. Paul’s Ministry in Troas and Macedonia (2:12-17)
   2. Paul's Letters of Recommendation (3:1—3)
   3. Paul's Competence (3:4-6)
   4. Ministry of the New Covenant (3:7-18)
   5. The Unveiled Truth (4:1-6)
   6. Treasure in Clay Jars (4:7-18)
   7. The Coming Resurrection (5:1-10)
   8. The Ministry of Reconciliation (5:11-6:2)
   9. Catalog of Paul’s Sufferings (6:3-13)
   10. Call to Separate from Paul's Opponents (6:14-7:1)
   11. Paul's Final Defense (7:2—16)
4. THE COLLECTION FOR THE BELIEVERS IN JERUSALEM (8:1-9:15)
   1. Example of the Churches in Macedonia (8:1—7)
   2. Examples of Christ's Sacrifice and the Old Testament (8:8—15)
   3. Administration of the Offering (8:16-24)
   4. Importance of Having the Offering Ready (9:1-5)
   5. Principles Motivating Generous Giving (9:6-15)
5. PAUL'S RENEWED DEFENSE OF HIS APOSTLESHIP (10:1-13:4)
   1. The Tone of Paul's Appeal (10:1-11)
   2. Divine Commendation of Paul's Ministry (10:12—18)
   3. Danger of the False Apostles (11:1-15)
   4. Paul's Sufferings (11:16-33)
   5. Paul's Visions and Revelations (12:1—10)
   6. Paul's Miracles (12:11-13)
   7. Paul's Final Defense (12:14-13:4)
6. FINAL EXHORTATIONS (13:5-12)
7. CLOSING (13:13)

1. Andreas J. Köstenberger, L. Scott Kellum, and Charles L. Quarles, *The Cradle, The Cross, and The Crown: An Introduction to the New Testament* (Nashville, Tenn: B & H Academic, 2009), 484. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)