

“WE HOLD THIS TREASURE IN EARTHEN VESSELS”

The Second Letter to the Corinthians

Who wrote The Second Letter to the Corinthians?

The Second Letter to the Corinthians was written by the Apostle Paul.

How did The Second Letter to the Corinthians get its name and/or what does that name mean?

The Second Letter to the Corinthians was written to the Church in the ancient Roman city in Corinth.

When did these events take place?

The Second Letter to the Corinthians was written in 56 A.D. during Paul's 3rd missionary journey.

For more about The Second Letter to the Corinthians:

See page 1251 in the [Fireside Catholic Youth Bible](#).

Can you recall the last time you disagreed with your parents or challenged their authority? Maybe you ignored a curfew or their advice about some of the kids you are hanging around with. Or, maybe you were taking advice from someone who really didn't have your best interest in mind or didn't really understand their perspective. Regardless of the reasons, your parents probably responded pretty firmly. They may even have become a bit defensive reminding you of some of their motivations and cares for you. If dealt with properly, these instances can foster a greater appreciation of how much you really do love each other. These experiences can actually give you a better understanding of your parents.

The Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians was written to address just that kind of situation. Even though he loved them deeply, Paul's relationship with the Corinthians had always been tense. This letter was written less than a year after the first letter and was a response to rumors and information Paul had received from Corinth. It seems that some people in the church there thought that his cancellation of plans to visit was because of a lack of interest in their success. Some people were even challenging Paul's authority and legitimacy as an Apostle of the Gospel. Paul knew this was much more than a disagreement. This was about mistrust.

From the very beginning of his answer to them you can hear that Paul took these accusations very personally. In this letter, he admonishes the Corinthians for even doubting his authority to preach the Gospel. In fact, much of this book of the Bible is a justification for his ministry – kind of a self-defense. In the meantime, through other letters, Paul receives word that trust in him is restored and that the Corinthians look forward to seeing him again. He blesses them for their forgiveness and rejoices that the Lord is continuing to bless the church in Corinth. The Second Letter to the Corinthians teaches us that ministering the Gospel, like parenting, is not always easy and that even in ancient times, as it is with you and your parents, the foundation of every healthy relationship is trust and love for each other.

Interesting Fact: Timothy is identified as a co-author of the Second Letter to the Corinthians. Both he and Titus (who is also mentioned in this book) were probably more trusted by the Corinthians at the time of this writing than was Paul.

Bonus Point: During which missionary journey did Paul write the 2nd letter to the Corinthians?