

## ***The Godly Way to Make God Known***

### ***II Corinthians 10:1-18***

*“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” --II Cor. 10:5*

- I. The destination determines the journey
  - A. Our goal: To know God and make Him known - Psalm 127:3-5
  - B. God's purpose: to make Himself known: Ephesians 3:10-11
- II. The Servant Leader's style - 10:1-2
  - A. An appeal, not coercion
  - B. Jesus' style: "By the meekness and gentleness of Christ"  
Matthew 11:28-30; Matthew 21:1-5
- III. A long distance conversation - 10:1-2
  - A. Bold versus timid
  - B. The world's standards of excellence:
- IV. The power struggle - 10:3
  - A. There is a war between light and darkness
  - B. We do not fight this battle according to this world's rules.
- V. Spiritual combat requires divine weaponry - 10:4
  - A. A weapon is a tool in war to subdue the enemy.
  - B. We use godly tools to undermine our enemy, who is not human
    - 1. Our offensive weapons: The sword of God's Word and prayer  
--Ephesians 6:10-18
    - 2. Living out God's will defeats the enemy.  
--Romans 13:12; II Corinthians 6:7; Romans 12:21
  - C. Our weapons are forged from our faith - I Thessalonians 5:8
- VI. Our godly weapons demolish enemy strongholds - 10:5
  - A. A stronghold is a fortified place in which the enemy hides.
  - B. Spiritual strongholds are well-defended wrong thoughts about God and His kingdom.
  - C. The Kingdom of Self = "Pretension that sets itself up" against God
- VII. We want to plant God's flag in every human heart

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- A. Paul's motives are pure
  - B. What are my motives in conflict?
  - C. To advance Christ, I must be Christ-like
- VIII. The consequence of resisting God's kingdom - 10:6
- A. Paul calls out the false teachers
  - B. The true believers must step away from the instigators.
- IX. We miss God's will when we only judge by externals - 10:7
- A. The Corinthians evaluated leadership by charismatic style.
  - B. Who do we follow in our society?
  - C. Jesus' style of leadership reveals true power. - Zech. 9:9; Matt. 12:19
- X. True leadership is serving God and His people - 10:7b-11
- A. Christ's authority always builds up and never tears down - 10:8
  - B. The goal is to empower others to know Christ
  - C. The greatest power comes from humility - 10:10-11
  - D. The false scale of human weights - 10:12
- XI. How God evaluates a leader: faithfulness - 10:13-17
- A. Success is based on obedience
  - B. God assigns a "field" to every person
  - C. God has willed for us to grow together with certain people.
  - D. We must each recognize the field that God has assigned to us.
  - E. We are not being overly responsible or invasive
- XII. The fruit of friendship: God's knowledge grows dramatically - 10:16
- A. God's knowledge is transmitted through relationships
  - B. We need God's vision to see his purpose in our relationships.
- XIII. Our ultimate boast is in the Lord- 10:17-18
- A. The destination: That we understand and know Him! Jeremiah 9:24