

***RISKING ALL FOR LOVE*****A Clear and Present Danger****2 Corinthians 11:1–15**

*“I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him.” 2 Corinthians 11: 2*

**Day 1: Read 2 Corinthians 11:1–6.**

1. As the founder of the Corinthian church (1 Cor. 4:15), what role does Paul see himself in now? Who is the bride-to-be?
2. In this role, how is Paul jealous and why? (vs. 2; Deut. 4:23–24)
3. How might the Corinthian church lose its “virginity”? (vs. 3)
4. Compare the deception of Eve in the garden and the deception brewing in the Corinthian church. (vss. 3–4; Gen. 3:1–13) Why do you think Paul chooses this comparison?

**Day 2: Read 2 Corinthians 11:1–6.**

5. What flirtations are endangering the Corinthian’s pure and simple devotion to Christ? (vs. 4) Can you name something that you are flirting with or putting up with that is endangering your relationship with Jesus?
6. What is the danger of believing in a false Jesus—a different gospel (vs. 4)? (Acts 4:12)
7. Paul denies his inferiority to these ‘super-apostles’; then why does he admit that he is deficient in oratory skills? What does Paul emphasize that he is not deficient in? Why? (vss. 5–6; 2 Cor. 10:4–5; Col. 2:2–4)

**Day 3: Read 2 Corinthians 11:7–12.**

8. Why does Paul commit the “sin” (vs. 7) of declining a salary for his preaching? How might this seem like a snub to the Corinthian congregation?
  
9. Do you think Paul is saying that this is God’s standard for all preachers? (vs. 9; 1 Cor. 9:7–19; 1 Tim. 5:17–18)
  
10. How does Paul emulate Jesus in lowering himself to elevate others? (2 Cor. 6:10; 8:9) How does your heart need to be challenged in this area?
  
11. Why is Paul so adamant in his pledge to continue this practice of not accepting money from the Corinthian church? (vs. 12; 2 Cor. 2:17)

**Day 4: Read 2 Corinthians 11:13–15.**

12. List all the strong words that Paul uses to describe his opponents. (vss. 13, 15) How do these words express “godly jealousy” (vs. 2) for God’s people? (Jas. 4:4–5)
  
13. Who are these false apostles actually servants of? How is their masquerading similar to their master’s? (vss. 14–15; Jn. 8:44)
  
14. Review the masquerading strategies of Satan that Paul has revealed so far in this letter. (2 Cor. 2:10–11; 4:4; 11:3, 14)

**Day 5: Read 2 Corinthians 11:13–15.**

15. What are some ways that Satan might be disguising himself as “an angel of light” (vs. 14) today?
  
16. In spite of Satan’s masquerading warfare, of what can Christians be assured? (Jas. 4:7–8a) What is in store for Satan’s servants? (vs. 15)