## **December 4 Questions**

| 1) | Paul now addressed the issue of the "apostles" that had infiltrated the congregation.                  |
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|    | Paul's reaction has much to teach us about spiritual maturity. First, Paul recognized that although he |
|    | walked in the flesh, he waged war by the (2 Cor 10:3–4). Second, Paul did not evaluate                 |
|    | himself or his ministry by himself with others. Instead, he based his sense of self-                   |
|    | worth and success on whether or not he had God. Third, Paul was more concerned                         |
|    | about the spiritual welfare of the Corinthians than he was about his own He had                        |
|    | deliberately shared the gospel with them free of charge so he could avoid being a to                   |
|    | the church. Fourth, Paul did not hesitate to the so-called apostles as a threat to the                 |
|    | Corinthians. Paul was in his confrontation of such men, and we must be quick to do the                 |
|    | same. Fifth, Paul played the "" by telling the Corinthians of his religious heritage, his toils        |
|    | and hardships, and his many visions and revelations. He did this, not to exalt himself, but to show    |
|    | the Corinthians that he was indeed a true of Jesus Christ. Sixth, Paul recognized his                  |
|    | own tendency to become, and he accepted God's "thorn in the flesh" as necessary                        |
|    | for his soul (2 Cor 12:9). This teaches us to see our weaknesses as opportunities for God to display   |
|    | His power, "for when I am weak, then I am" (2 Cor 12:10).  |