***“Loving People Enough”***

**2 Corinthians 1:12-2:4**

**I. Explanatory Background**

**A) God is in the Details**

**B) The Corinthian Correspondence**

1) First Visit

2) “Previous Letter”

3) Reports

4) Paul Sends Timothy

5) Writes 1 Corinthians

6) Second Visit i.e. “Painful Visit”

7) Writes “Severe Letter” - today’s passage

8) Paul opts not to Visit a 3rd time - today’s passage

9) Titus meets Paul with Good Report

10) Writes 2nd Corinthians - around 56AD

11) Third Visit - ~57 AD

**II.** **God’s Timing is the Best Timing**

**A) A Time to Trust God**

*Loving People Enough … give time*

1) Opposition to Follow Through

 2 Corinthians 10:10; Judges 11:31; 1 Kings 2:20-21

2) Glorifying God and Benefiting others

a) Sometimes an immediate response is needed - Matthew 5:23-26 Ephesians 4:26-27

b) Sometimes Spirit-led delay is appropriate - 2 Corinthians 1:23-24

i) You might need to work through some heart issues/ You might need to have the right motives = glory of God and good of other person

ii) Allowing time for Holy Spirit with the offender

**B) A Time to Speak: Speaking Truth in Love**

*Loving People Enough … take action*

1) Truth and Motivation - Ephesians 4:14-15

 a) careful of motivation

b) careful of authority (don’t lord position over others) 2 Cor 1:23-24; Mt 20:25-26

2) Love and Demonstration

*Loving People Enough … emotionally vulnerable*

a) Love is often costly - Rom 5:6

b) Love considers others and their circumstances

c) Love is willing to initiate - Eph 5:2