

## 2 Corinthians 6:11-13

## I. Introduction

A broad heart is given by God. (1 Kings 4:29)

One can also strive to possess a broad heart through personal effort.

Example: A certain believer's story

However, broadening one's heart does not mean compromising with unrighteousness or tolerating what is not true.

## II. Main Message

Paul was originally a narrow-minded person, but he broadened his heart.

Paul once had such a narrow heart that he could not embrace young Mark. (Acts 15:37-39)

Yet, after broadening his heart, he reconciled with Mark and even asked that he be brought to him. (2 Timothy 4:11)

Paul's broad heart in his relationship with the Corinthian church

The Corinthians were Paul's spiritual children – his spiritual family.

Yet, they divided into factions, engaged in immorality, and even practiced idolatry.

Some even denied Paul's apostleship and criticized his preaching.

Nevertheless, Paul opened his heart wide to them in love and urged them to open their hearts as well. (2 Corinthians 6:11-12)

Five characteristics of a person with a broad heart

- 1) They take the initiative to open their heart and begin the conversation.

Paul "opened his mouth" toward them (v.11) – he initiated dialogue.

He wrote multiple letters, including one written in tears. (2 Corinthians 2:4)

He sent Titus to comfort them and visited personally.

Likewise, Jesus first sought out Peter, comforted him, and accepted him. (John 21)

- 2) They do not criticize or condemn others.

Instead of condemning the Corinthians, Paul admonished them with love. (2 Corinthians 2:4)

Jesus comforted Peter and did not condemn the woman caught in adultery.

- 3) They neither get hurt easily nor hurt others easily.

As Laozi said in the Tao Te Ching: "The highest good is like water (上善若水)."

Jesus lived like water – He neither hurt others nor was easily wounded.

- 4) They embrace everyone in their heart.

Paul embraced even those different from him or those he disliked. (1 Corinthians 9:20-21)

He even accepted the runaway slave Onesimus. (Phil. 1:16-18; Rom. 15:7; Col. 3:13)

Even in the world, people with broad hearts become leaders.

Jesus had a heart as vast as the sea and as great as a mountain. (Matthew 11:28-29)

- 5) They bring comfort both to themselves and to those around them.

Example: A pastor who never nagged yet brought peace to everyone.

## III. Conclusion

Take a moment to reflect: How big is your heart?

Pray and ask God to give you a broad and generous heart.

Then make every effort, with your will, to cultivate that broad heart.

**Bible  
Memorization**

**A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

“In return (I speak as to children) widen your hearts also.” (2 Corinthians 6:13)

**Bible  
Reading**

10/20(Mon)	10/21(Tue)	10/22(Wed)	10/23(Thur)	10/24(Fri)	10/25(Sat)	10/26(Sun)
Matthew 23-25	Matthew 26	Matthew 27-28, Mark 1	Mark 2-4	Mark 5-7	Mark 8-9	Mark 10-12

**QT**

**Quiet Time Passage**

10/20(Mon)	10/21(Tue)	10/22(Wed)	10/23(Thur)	10/24(Fri)	10/25(Sat)	10/26(Sun)
Zech. 7:1-14	Zech. 8:1-17	Zech. 8:18-23	Zech. 9:1-8	Zech. 9:9-17	Zech. 10:1-12	Zech. 11:1-17

**Sharing  
Questions**

1. What part of today's message touched or blessed you the most? Please share one thing.

2. The pastor mentioned five characteristics of a person with a broad heart. Share about someone you have met who has a big, generous heart and inspired you.

3. Paul urged the Corinthians, “We have opened wide our hearts to you; open wide yours also.” How can we broaden our hearts? Share your thoughts.