# 2 Cor 1:12-20 Walking through treacle

## 2. Explain where you’re coming from

# What do people see when they look at you?

## How do you conduct yourself when people are against you?

# You can only control you

## Conduct yourself with integrity

### Be true to your beliefs and your word

### 7 signs (Psychology Today, Meyers, 4/2015):

#### Apologising to your children when you have erred

#### Highlighting the achievements of those under you and downplaying your own

#### Not name-calling your partner

#### Driving non-aggressively

#### Apologising for tardiness

#### Giving people the benefit of the doubt

#### Volunteering

### It’s not innate, it’s learned and practiced

## Conduct yourself with Godly sincerity

### Be open and honest before God and people

#### The absence of pretence, deceit or hypocrisy

### Godly sincerity is having the guts to admit that without God’s grace and love we’re totally lost

## Explain where you’re coming from

### Without emotion!

# God leads and guides His people

## It’s not easy or simple

### Paul knew the scriptures and the importance of sticking to God’s word

## Circumstances change things

### Those who didn’t like Paul used it as ammunition against him

# God does not vacillate

### When He says ‘Yes’ to accepting us in Christ it’s not ‘until we mess up’

## He makes us stand in faith

## He set His seal upon us

## He put His Spirit in us

# God is for us

## He seals us with His Spirit

### The guarantee for what is to come

#### A welcome in heaven and eternal life with Him in Christ

## It doesn’t depend on how much we mess up

### Although He would prefer it if we didn’t

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# ‘You can only control you’

## To what extent do you agree with this statement?

### What about children? Those who work under you? A spouse? Elderly parents?

## Why is this difficult to accept for many people?

# Integrity

### This is a big topic in 2 Corinthians

## How do each of the 7 signs of Meyers (above) point to integrity?

### To what extent do you agree that integrity is learned and practised?

#### Does practising integrity alter character?

# Godly sincerity

## What would church be like if there were no pretence, deceit or hypocrisy?

# God’s guidance

## Have you been led to do something but failed to complete it because of circumstances?

### If so, explain the events

### Where was God in it?

## Why do you think it can sometimes be so difficult to work out God’s guidance?

### Was it too much planning or not enough listening or something else?

# God’s ‘Yes’

## Why do you think Paul needed to stress God’s ‘Yes’ in this passage?