Yale
DIVINITY SCHOOL
*Yale Bible Study*

# 2 Corinthians
# The Fool's Vision

## Interpreting the Text:

1. Chapters 10-13 are allegedly from a different, perhaps earlier, letter of Paul to the Corinthians. How does this affect our reading of these chapters? Why might these chapters have been included in this letter with the other portions?

2. Paul is using language of "foolishness" and "boastfulness" as he has in other letters. How does his consistent language support authorial authenticity, or at least connection, between other letters? Is his use of these words consistent?

## Applying the Text:

1. How does Paul handle the challenge from rivals, like these other apostles that are referenced? Does his strategy serve as a model of how a Christian might handle social conflict?

2. Is there anything in contemporary culture that functions in the way that "boasting" about pedigree or accomplishments did in the Greco-Roman world? Is that cultural convention something that Christians should employ? If so, does Paul's strategy about boasting serve as a useful model?

3. Paul's relationship with money and financial exchange with the Corinthians is an important topic here. How does money affect his relationship with the church? How does money affect relationships with your own church and the larger community? Are there similarities and differences?