

## We Can't Make Them Drink!

Paul spent his life as a Christian with one major purpose and that was to help others. Writing to the Corinthians he said it was his desire *"...that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God"* (Second Corinthians 1:4).



To the Corinthians, Paul said, *"I wrote unto you with many tears...that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you."* He continued *"I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with you"* (Second Corinthians 7:3). Paul continued, *"And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved"* (Second Corinthians 12:15).

### "Ye Would Not"

The phrase **"would not"** occurs in the Word of God 118 times. The phrase **"ye would not,"** came from the lips of Moses four times. He wanted to be a helper to their joy but they would not listen. The prophet Isaiah said, *"In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not"* (Isaiah 30:15). The prophet Jeremiah said, *"Because they have not hearkened to my words, saith the LORD, which I sent unto them by my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them; but ye would not hear, saith the LORD"* (Jeremiah 29:19).

**Jesus said,** *"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!"* In John 5:40 Jesus said, *"...ye will not come to me, that ye might have life."*

### They Must Choose

It is discouraging for a pastor or a parent when the people we care about refuse to listen; however, they must make their own choices and face the consequences of their choices.

### "A Heaviness of Heart And Continual Sorrow"

Paul said *"I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart...for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh."* (Romans 9:1-3). Paul also said, *"Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God"* (Acts 20:26).

We must realize that we do not have *"dominion over the faith"* of our listeners we are simply *helpers of their joy*" (Second Corinthians 1:24). We can point them to the Bible but we can't make them drink from the *"...well of water springing up into everlasting life"* (John 4:14).