WOODVALE
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Connect Group Sermon Aligned Discussion Guide.

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Series Title: Understanding Misunderstandings
Key Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 1:12-2 Corinthians 2:1, 4
Recorded Sermon: https://youtu.be/CJHK9B1_OuI?si=XH3As9dmkMDT-ZiK
Date + Speaker: April 26, 2026 Pastor Mark Scarr

Starter Questions:

1. What's the funniest autocorrect fail your phone has ever created?
2. If misunderstandings were a sport, what event would you accidentally win — the "I Thought You Said…" relay or the "Wrong Person Texted" sprint?
3. When you're tired at the end of the day, what's the easiest thing for you to misunderstand — tone, text messages, facial expressions, or something else?
4. What's one funny misunderstanding you've experienced at work or at home that you can laugh about now?

Discussion Questions:

1. Pastor Mark said misunderstandings often start small and grow like wildfire. Why do you think small things can escalate so quickly?
2. Paul spent 18 months in Corinth winning people to Christ and establishing a church (Acts 18:1-18). Later, he was misunderstood by the Corinthians because he changed his travel plans (1 Corinthians 16:5-7, 2 Corinthians 1:15-16, 2 Corinthians 2:1). What are some modern examples of unfulfilled expectations causing relational tension?
3. How do you typically respond when your actions are questioned? Does it match how Paul responded with integrity and a clear conscience (2 Corinthians 1:12-13)?
4. Paul's words were twisted, yet he stayed calm and spoke truthfully. What helps you stay grounded when someone misinterprets your words?
5. Why is it so easy to assume wrong motives in others, especially when emotions are high?
6. Which piece of Pastor Mark's practical advice stood out most to you — and why (See Additional Notes below)?

Diving Deeper:

1. Paul chose not to visit Corinth to give space for God to work. What does it look like in your life to "pull back," surrender a situation to Jesus, and trust Him with the outcome?
2. Misunderstandings can be spiritual battles ("the devil is involved" Ephesians 2:2). How can believers discern when a misunderstanding is more than just human miscommunication?
3. "Seek to understand above being understood." What would change in your relationships if you consistently lived out this principle?
4. How does remembering "It's not about me… it's all about God and eternity" reshape the way you handle conflict or criticism?
5. Think of a current or past misunderstanding in your life. What step from Paul's example — honesty, clarity, patience, prayer, or giving space — could bring healing?

Additional Notes:

SOME PRACTICAL ADVICE …

1. Take note that in life you will be **MISUNDERSTOOD** and there will be times that you will **MISUNDERSTAND**.
2. Seek to **UNDERSTAND** above being **UNDERSTOOD**.
3. Learn to become aware, accept and appreciate **PERSONALITY** differences.
4. The best defence is an **HONEST**, clear and **NON-DEFENSIVE** explanation.
5. You can't control how people **RESPOND** to you.
6. **PRAY** for the person who misunderstands you.
7. Never return **EVIL** for **EVIL** … 1 Peter 2:23
8. Repeat this: "It is not about **ME**. It is not about **NOW**. It's all about God. It's all about eternity."