



Lesson 26: *Ministry of Reconciliation* 2 Corinthians 5:9–6:2

5:9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

5:11 Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. 12 We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart. 13 If we are out of our mind, it is for the sake of God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. 14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

5:16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. 21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

6:1 As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. 2 For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

*Our extravagant methods*

▲ *Our accountability is serious*

▼ *We live for God's agenda*

2 Corinthians 5:9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.

▼ *We're looking for God's approval*

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

▲ *Our apostleship is sincere*

▼ *We work to be persuasive*

2 Corinthians 5:11 Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men.

▼ *We want to be plain*

2 Corinthians 5:11 What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience.

▼ *We want you to be proud of us*

2 Corinthians 5:12 We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart.

▲ *Our approach is sometimes striking and strange*

2 Corinthians 5:13 If we are out of our mind, it is for the sake of God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.

*Our evangelist ministry*

▲ *Consider our missionary motivation*

▼ *We are compelled by the noble love of Christ*

2 Corinthians 5:14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

▼ *We are convinced of a new life in Christ*

2 Corinthians 5:15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

▲ *Consider our missionary mindset*

▼ *We see sinners in need of salvation*

2 Corinthians 5:16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view.

▼ *We see the Savior as sufficient*

2 Corinthians 5:16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer.

▲ *Consider our miraculous message*

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

▲ *Consider our missionary ministry*

▼ *We are reconciled to Christ*

2 Corinthians 5:18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

▼ *We are representatives of Christ*

2 Corinthians 5:20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.

*Our embracing message*

▲ *Be reconciled to God*

2 Corinthians 5:20 We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

▲ *Be the righteousness of God*

2 Corinthians 5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

▲ *Be receptive to the grace of God*

2 Corinthians 6:1 As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain.

▲ *Be ready to receive the grace of God*

▼ *Hear the invitation*

2 Corinthians 6:2 For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." {from Isaiah 49:8}

▼ *Hurry and heed the invitation*

2 Corinthians 6:2 I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.