

2 Corinthians 5:11-21

New Covenant Ministry of Reconciliation





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Four characteristics that should motivate Christians to reverently serve in Jesus' name and to communicate the message of reconciliation to the lost.

Faithful followers of Christ are:

1. Commended by God — vv.11–12

¹¹ Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are made manifest to God; and I hope that we are made manifest also in your consciences.

¹² We are not again commending ourselves to you but *are* giving you an occasion to be proud of us, so that you will have *an answer* for those who take pride in appearance and not in heart.

1. Commended by God — vv.11–12

Application:

- Seek God's commendation by living a life of integrity and consistency.
- Support and stand with your church leaders.

Faithful followers of Christ are:

1. Commended by God — vv.11–12
2. Controlled by Christ's Love — vv. 13–15

¹³ For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are of sound mind, it is for you.
¹⁴ For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; ¹⁵ and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

2. Controlled by Christ's love — vv. 13–15

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Application:

- Give your ransomed life back to God in service of Him.
- Love those for whom Christ died.
- Share the love of Christ with the lost.

Faithful followers of Christ are:

1. Commended by God — vv.11–12
2. Controlled by Christ's Love — vv. 13–15
3. Concerned with Spiritual Realities — vv. 16–17

¹⁶ Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him in this way no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

3. Concerned with Spiritual Realities — vv. 16–17

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Application:

- Be satisfied in Christ alone.
- See people as they really are—either bound for heaven or hell—and interact with them accordingly.

Faithful followers of Christ are:

1. Commended by God — vv.11–12
2. Controlled by Christ's Love — vv. 13–15
3. Concerned with Spiritual Realities — vv. 16–17
4. Commissioned with Reconciliation — vv. 18–21

¹⁸ Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

4. Commissioned with Reconciliation — 5:18–21

²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

4. Commissioned with Reconciliation — 5:18–21

4. Commissioned with Reconciliation — vv. 18–21

Application:

- Pray for the lost!
- Preach the message of reconciliation to them!
- Support the work of local outreach and missions through prayer and giving!

2 Timothy 1:12-14

12 For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that **He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him** until that day.

13 Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

14 **Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.**



