

The Message: Be Reconciled! (2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2)

This is a call to the Christian to return to the truths of the Gospel *again* and a call to the non-Christian to go there for the first time!

Reconciliation has fellowship as its end goal

A full, complete satisfaction has been made for your sins - you can go to God with the assurance of being accepted!

Love the Gospel, Live the Gospel, Advance the Gospel

We must not only love the Gospel Story, we must begin to live the Gospel Story, indeed, to have the Central Character live in us.

- What did Daryn mean when he said that we are all on a “long-term” mission trip and why is this so important to remember?
- What motivated Paul to continue preaching in the face of opposition, suffering and critique?
- What kind of opposition have you felt to the “mission” of living and proclaiming the gospel? Have the things that motivated Paul motivated you? If so, how? If not, why?
- How can we grow in our fear of the LORD?
- What does, “For Christ’s love *compels* us...” mean?
- Read 2 Cor. 5:16-20 out loud. In light of today’s message what have you learned about these verses?
- In what ways is the message “Be Reconciled!” for both the believer and the non-believer?
- How do we receive the grace of God in vain? Are you currently doing this? How does the truth of 2 Cor. 5:21 speak to this?

The Motivation and Message of our Long-term Mission Trip

2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2

Daryn Kinney

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Paul lays out his motivation and his message

Here we find one of the clearest passages in the Bible regarding the reconciling work of God through His Son.

2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2

Our calling to proclaim this message of reconciliation begins with a certainty and joy in the reconciliation we’ve received.

Motivation #1 - Knowing the fear of the LORD we try to persuade men (2 Corinthians 5:11)

We will give an account for how we lived our lives.

Do you try and persuade men?

live as a dying man before dying men

A radical reorientation has taken place

CS Lewis: "...*what mattered most of all was my deep-seated hatred of authority, my monstrous individualism and lawlessness. No word in my vocabulary expressed deeper hatred than the word "interference". But Christianity placed at the center what then seemed to me a transcendental (supernatural) interferer.*"

David Wells: "*A due weighty sense of the greatness and holiness of God, a sense that will reach into our lives, wrench them around, lift our vision, fill our hearts, make us courageous for what is right, and over time leave behind its beautiful residue of Christlike character.*"

Motivation #2 - Compelled by the love of Jesus we remain convinced (2 Corinthians 5:14-16)

Romans 1:14-17

Ask the Lord for a greater view of His love for you!
Romans 5:5-8, Ephesians 3:17-19, Romans 8:35-39

Our entire Christian life depends on this one thing: our understanding and application of the gospel message.

Motivation #3 - Reconciled to God through His Son we are made new (2 Corinthians 5:17-19)

For Paul, the resurrection of Jesus was as significant as the creation of the world itself.

The "old" has gone, the "new" has come?

We experience struggles with sin, personal failures, anxiety, frustration...and wonder why if the "new" has come.

The Son of God is creating a new humanity, a new community, a new people **who live with Him at the center.**

Motivation #4 - Entrusted with this message of reconciliation we speak with urgency (2 Corinthians 5:19b-21)

A show and tell faith

- Tell people with urgency
- Always be honest
- Tell people with humility and joy
- Use and know your Bible
- Take time to listen
- Remember to pray

Sharing this message of reconciliation is the most loving thing we could ever do for someone.