



ENTRUSTED WITH THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS

Entrusted With a Ministry

¹¹ Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. ¹² We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart. ¹³ For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴ For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵ and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:11-21

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(page 908 in the worship center Bibles)

The message of the cross calls us to a ministry of reconciliation.

1) The _____ of the Lord and the _____ of Christ are motivations for our ministry. 5:11-15

2) New _____ is the message of our ministry. 5:16-19

3) _____ is the method of our ministry. 5:20-21

So What?

How are you responding to the call of ministry in your life? How will you take this message into your week?

Next week we will continue in 2 Corinthians, looking at 6:1-13 and thinking about what it means to live in a favorable time!
