

THE NEW LIFE | “Living as ambassadors of Christ”
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
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Lord’s Day, February 5, 2017

The New Life is characterized by . . .

- > Living in light of eternity (5:1-10)
- > Living for Christ (5:11-15)
- > Living as ambassadors of Christ (5:16-21)

How do we live as ambassadors of Christ?

I. We must remember our new identity (5:16-18).

A. We have a new perspective (v. 16)

B. We are a new creation (v. 17)

C. We are reconciled to God (v. 18)

- We have peace with God (Rom. 5:1).
- We have access to our Heavenly Father (Eph. 2:18; 3:12).

II. We must delight in His message daily (5:18-21).

A. The message of reconciliation is from God (v. 18a)

- **Reconciliation Defined:**
 - To restore a broken relationship.
 - Separation from God exists (Eph 2:12)
 - The reason for our separation: sin (v. 19ab)
 - God always initiates reconciliation with himself (v. 18a)
 - Those reconciled to God are no longer enemies but are friends (Rom 5:10)
 - Reconciliation is an accomplished fact (v.18) and a continuing process (v.19).

Romans 5:10-11 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

B. God reconciled us to Himself through Christ (vv. 19, 21)

- **Two things were accomplished:**
 - (1) Forgiveness of sin (v. 19)**
 - (2) A right standing before God (v. 21)**

1 Peter 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

C. God through Christ created a new community (Eph. 2:13-16).

13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his

flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

III. We must proclaim His message faithfully (5:18-20).

A. God has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation (vv. 18-19).

2 Timothy 1:14 By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

B. God speaks His message of reconciliation through us (v. 20).