



Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

November 21, 2021
2 Corinthians 6:1-13: True Servants of Christ

Review

- *We have this treasure (of the Gospel) in jars of clay (very temporary) ... (2 Corinthians 4:7)*
- *So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. (2 Corinthians 4:18)*
- *So we make it our goal to please HIM... (2 Corinthians 5:9)*
- *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ... (2 Corinthians 5:10)*
- *For Christ's love compels us... (2 Corinthians 5:14)*
- *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. (2 Corinthians 5:20)*

When is the time to respond to God in obedience?

What has God been asking you to do in this season of your life?

"If you and I are going to redeem time, as wise men and women, we had better do it now, because there may be no opportunity tomorrow. If we are to understand the will of God, now is the moment that counts. If we are going to be filled with God's Spirit, now is when we need filling." (James Montgomery Boice)

"Resolved never to lose one moment of time, but to improve it in the most profitable way I possibly can." (Jonathan Edwards)

Vs. 3-4: Paul invites the church to look closely at their life to see if they are true servants.

Evidence #1 of Servanthood to Christ (4-5)

No external struggles may be allowed to hinder our serving with the Lord God.

Evidence #2 of Paul's Servanthood to Christ (6-7)

No internal character issues may be allowed to hinder our serving with the LORD GOD.

Said another way...

Any leadership or attitude that doesn't look like Jesus is off track.

How are you doing? Are you serving in purity? With a sincere heart and love? Does your Christian life look like Jesus? In what ways does it not look like Jesus?

This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin. (1 John 1:5-7)

Evidence #3 of Paul's Servanthood to Christ (8-10)

No public honor, standing or recognition should interfere with our serving with the Lord God.

John the Baptist:

He must become greater; I must become less. (John 3:30)

Evidence of being a true servant of Christ

No external struggles may be allowed to hinder our serving with the Lord God. (Perseverance: How can I serve God in my weaknesses?)

No internal character issues may be allowed to hinder our serving with the LORD GOD. (Do I have the heart of Jesus, and do I treat people as Jesus would?)

No public honor, standing or recognition should interfere with our serving with the Lord God. (Am I living for God's eternal rewards or for the praise of this world?)

HOME GROUP Questions for 2 Corinthians 6:1-13...

1. Why would it be a mistake to take God's grace for granted? Do you think there is a time frame in which to receive His grace? Read the following passages and discuss. Verses 1 & 2 refer to salvation, but where might we take God for granted in our spiritual walk? What might be the consequences?
 - Isaiah 49:8
 - Romans 13:11
 - John 9:4
 - Proverbs 1:32
2. How do you think each of these things commends Paul to the Corinthians as a faithful minister of the Gospel (6:6-7)? What kind of obstacles could a minister place on their flock that would hinder spiritual growth or even salvation?
 - By purity
 - By knowledge
 - By longsuffering
 - By kindness
 - By the Holy Spirit
 - By the word of truth
 - By the Word of God
 - By the armor of righteousness on the right hand and left
3. Describe Paul's feelings for these Corinthian brethren (6:11). What hinders them from responding with the same kind of love and openness to him (6:12)? For what reason should they open themselves to him (6:13)?