

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

November 14, 2021 2 Corinthians 5:11-21: Ambassadors

"I pray that out of his glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." (Ephesians 3:16-19)

11: Since, then, we know what it is to <u>fear the Lord</u>, we try to persuade others...

"In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty." (Isaiah 6:1-5)

13: If we are "out of our mind," as some say, it is for God...

"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)

"We are fools for Christ..." (1 Corinthians 4:10)

14: <u>For Christ's love compels us</u>, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

"We love because he first loved us." (1 John 4:19)

"This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." (1 John 4:10)

"But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

15: And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.

Then He said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."
(Luke 9:23)

"Fallen man is not simply an imperfect creature who needs improvement: he is a rebel who must lay down his arms." (C.S. Lewis)

17: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again." (John 3:3)



20: We are therefore <u>Christ's ambassadors</u>, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

21: God made Him who had not sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

ambassador noun



1 : an official envoy

especially: a diplomatic agent of the highest rank accredited to a foreign government or sovereign as the resident representative of his or her own government or sovereign or appointed for a special and often temporary diplomatic assignment

// She's the American ambassador to Italy.

2 a : an authorized representative or messenger

Ambassadors:

- 1. Know who they represent.
- 2. Have authority from the one who sent them.
- 3. Are always on mission.

HOME GROUP Questions for 2 Corinthians 5:11-21...

- 1. What motivated and constrained Paul to preach (5:11-15)?
 - 5:11
 - 5:12
 - 5:13
 - 5:14-15

How should this motivate us in sharing the Gospel?

- 2. What does the Gospel announce to us about God and His Son?
 - 5:15
 - 5:18
 - 5:21

Why is this important?

3. What does Paul mean that he doesn't regard anyone from a worldly point of view? How did they regard Christ? How might someone with a worldly view regard Christ?