

## A Church for the Hurting Part 4

### 2 Corinthians 5

**13** If we are “out of our mind,” as some say, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. **14** For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. **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.

**16** So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. **17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! **18** All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: **19** that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. **20** We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.

- Paul speaks often of his critics and their criticism of him in 2 Corinthians.
- He was criticized in his Doctrine and was seen as unimpressive in speech and in appearance by those who wanted to take his place of influence.

### Vs. 13

If we are “out of our mind,” as some say, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.

Speaking of being out of our minds:

### Valentines Ideas: Ads

### Vs. 14,15

**For Christ’s love compels us**, because we are convinced that one died for all... **those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him** who died for them and was raised again.

For a Church to be used by God to reach a Hurting World they must be compelled by Christ’s love.

**Compelled:** to force or oblige someone to do something.

Paul says Christ's love compels us...  
Compelled to tell people about Jesus...

**Story:** I love getting phone calls and hearing about how God is using so many of you to be a witness to others.

- People need to hear about Jesus from normal people...
- People who aren't "Ministers" and haven't gone to seminary...
- The Church becomes a powerful tool for the Kingdom when you and I feel compelled by the Love of God to tell others about the Him.

### **Vs. 17 NKJV**

Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

**Epiphany:** The manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. A moment of sudden revelation or insight.

"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." **1 Cor. 1:18**

People really do need the Lord  
They may not even realize it yet  
Pray that they would  
Pray they would be brought to Need Him, Desire Him, Seek for Him  
Pray they would find Him  
Pray they would have an Epiphany

Anyone can be saved...  
God saves the hardest of hearts...  
God saves the wildest of sinners, in the darkest of places...  
He makes them new...  
A person who was once wild in the world, can become wild for Jesus...

### **Vs. 18**

All this is from God, **who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:**

## **Reconciliation:**

1. **Exchange**; money changers, of the business of exchanging equivalent values,.
2. **Restoration**; of divine favor.

When I went to Israel, one of the first things we did was go to a Currency Exchange Booth. Because my American Money had to be changed over to Israeli Money.

## **Part 2 - Jesus reads in Luke 4**

### **Isaiah 61**

1 The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,  
because the Lord has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim freedom for the captives  
and release from darkness for the prisoners,  
2  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor

### **Continue:**

And the day of vengeance of our God;  
To comfort all who mourn,  
3  
To console those who mourn in Zion,  
To give them beauty for ashes,  
The oil of joy for mourning,  
The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;  
That they may be called trees of righteousness,  
The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.”

- **Do you see the Exchange? That's Reconciliation...**

## **Part 1**

### **Matthew 9 - Two Blind Men**

two blind men followed Jesus, crying out and saying, “Son of David, have mercy on us!”

29 Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith let it be to you." 30 And their eyes were opened.

**There was an Exchange from Blind to Seeing  
Jesus is the Change Maker**

**Part 2**

**Luke 8 - The man called Legion**

**From tormented every day, driven to a solitary place, naked and unruly to sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind and sent back to his hometown to be a witness for Jesus.**

**Jesus is the Change Maker**

**Part 3**

**Acts 16 - A certain slave girl with a spirit of divination (python)**

**There was an Exchange from the choke hold of the devil to free...**

**Jesus is Making Change - He is the Change Maker**

How about:

**Luke 15 - The Prodigal Son**

**From a pig pen to the fathers house**

**from stained, smelly garments to the fathers clean robe**

**from lost identity to a fathers ring**

**from hungry to the fattened calf**

• **Are you seeing this? That's Reconciliation...**

How about:

**Matthew 11**

28 "Come to me, all you who are **weary and heavy laden** (burdened), and **I will give you rest.** 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for **I am gentle and humble in heart**, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 **For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.**"

• **Jesus goes after the Hurting to make an Exchange...**

From Weary, Burdened, Heavy to Rested, Gentle Humble and Light

Beauty for Ashes,  
The oil of Joy for Mourning,  
The Garment of Praise for the Spirit of Heaviness;  
From Weary to Rested  
From Yoked to Free  
From Heavy to Light

## 2 Corinthians 5

**17** Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; **old things have passed away**; behold, **all things have become new**.

**18** All this is from God, **who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation**:

Closing:

- That is exactly what a Hurting World needs to know...
- God is an Exchanger
- He Exchanges death to life
- Old to New
- Hurt to Healing
- Despair to Hope
- Church, You have the Ministry of Reconciliation...
- You are Reconciliation Dealer...