



February 11, 2024 | Pastor Keith Krell
2 Corinthians 3:1-6 | “Competent in Christ”

Sermon Application Review from 2 Corinthians 2:14-17

How have you expressed thanks for Christ’s victory this past week (2:14)?

How have you lived and spoken as the scent of Christ (2:15–17)?

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 3:1–6

1 Corinthians 15:9–11

Romans 6:1–14; 7:1–6

Galatians 3:1–5

Hebrews 10:1–4

Jeremiah 31:31–34

Ezekiel 36:22–32

Study Questions

1. How does our society and church encourage a culture of “success”? How can such a paradigm lead either to pride or despair? What does it mean to be “successful” (i.e., fruitful) in life and ministry? How does Paul define true success in 1 Corinthians 4:1–5?
2. Who are the people in your life that are “letters of recommendation” in your Christian experience (3:1)? How have these sisters and brothers marked you? How have you expressed your gratitude?
3. It has been said, “You may be the only Bible people will ever read.” How credible is your life as a “letter of Christ” (3:2–3)? In what area can you improve? Who are the people in your life that have experienced life change as a result of your influence? Who in your immediate context can you influence for Jesus?
4. In what specific ways does your “confidence” rest in the Lord (3:4–5)? How are you tempted to place confidence in yourself? What areas of your life do you need to give over to God?
5. How did the law “kill” you prior to your Christian conversion (3:6)? How are your performance tendencies killing your present Christian experience? Why is it so difficult to rely upon the Holy Spirit? How is the Spirit presently giving you “life” in your daily walk and ministry?

Recommended Reading

Joseph M. Stowell, *Perilous Pursuits: Our Obsession with Significance* (Moody, 1994)

Michael Eaton, *How to Live a Godly Life* (Sovereign World, 1993)

Don Matzat, *Christ Esteem: Where the Search for Self-Esteem Ends* (Harvest House, 1990)

Neil T. Anderson & Robert L. Saucy, *God’s Power at Work in You* (Harvest House, 2001)