

## **2 Cor. 6:1-13 Paradox of Serving Jesus**

**6:1-2** Paul calls us Coworkers **with** God (an ambassador). There is a sense of urgency as there is an acceptable time (Kairos).

- For the believer, there is a Kairos time of grace of God for the ambassador work.
- For unbelievers to not reject the Kairos time of salvation.

As an **ambassador** for Christ, Paul invited terrible circumstances because of:

- a) serving in a broken cursed world
- b) loving broken people
- c) living in a broken tent of flesh with its skewed desires.

**6:3** So: How do we finish the race well and not being disqualified or disqualifying the message as an ambassador (causing others to stumble)? Keys to good “ambassadorship”:

1. **V.4 Identity:** I define and filter everything through the title of servanthood.
2. **Constant commendation:** The regular self-reminders that I am His servant, nothing else. Luke 17:10

**V.4** We get through the prolonged pressures of a broken world without causing an offense only because of a constant reminder that I am a representing servant, just doing my duty to obey him all in light of the eternal weight of glory.

**V.5** I get through the problems from serving broken people without causing offense by remembering I am a representing servant just doing my duty to obey him.

I can be victorious even though I live in a broken fragile tent without causing offense by remembering I am his representing servant just doing my duty to obey him.

**V.6-** I am able to be beyond reproach in my character only through a constant commending or reminder of my identity, that I am a representing servant, just doing his duty to obey him.

3. **Right resources or weapons.** It’s only possible with the right tools. V.6b-7

**V.8-10** The paradox of serving Jesus is that the world will see us one way, but Jesus sees us another. And how Jesus sees us is the only thing that matters.

### **Grow Group questions:**

1. Does my lifestyle condemn or commend me? Do an inventory: is there a public area of my life that I am not representing well or causing a stumbling block to others? How do I remedy it?
2. Where do I engage my time and resources the most? What drives me in finding my sense of self-worth? Is it work? Or in an ability? A relationship? Or in being a “servant of Christ”. How does this understanding change how we live?
3. Eric Liddell, the Scottish runner in Chariots of Fire and a Japanese internment camp victim, said this regarding the key to his life and example in enduring the internment difficulties as an ambassador: “Here are four tests of the moral law by which we measure ourselves—and so obey the biblical commands”. They speak about integrity.
  - a. Am I truthful? Are there any conditions under which I will or do tell a lie? Can I be depended on to tell the truth no matter what the cost? Yes or no?
  - b. Am I honest? Can I be absolutely trusted in money matters? In my work even when no one is looking? With other people’s reputations? With myself, or do I rationalize and become self-defensive?
  - c. Am I pure? In my habits? In my thought life? In my motives? In my relations with others?
  - d. Am I selfish? In the demands I make on my family, wife, husband, or associates? Am I badly balanced; full of moods, cold today and warm tomorrow?”

**Announcements on the back!**

## Announcements - 11/5

- **Young Adults Movie Night** - 11/6, 7pm at the Clevenger's House. Watching The Passion of the Christ. More information at [feathersoundchurch.com/youngadults](http://feathersoundchurch.com/youngadults)
- **Men's Bible Study** - Weekly Study Beginning 11/9 at 7pm - Learn the Biblical Principles and Qualities of Godly men.
- **Sisters** - 11/11 at 9am in the Fellowship Hall
- **Baptisms** - 11/12 during the 2nd Service. Sign up at [feathersoundchurch.com/baptism](http://feathersoundchurch.com/baptism)
- **Harvest Dinner** - 11/12 at 5pm - A-M Bring a side dish, N-Z Bring a dessert
- **GriefShare Potluck** - 11/14 at 6pm - Surviving the Holidays - This is a GriefShare one-time seminar for those grieving the death of a loved one with regards to the holidays.
- **Young Adults Thanksgiving Potluck** - 11/14, 6pm at the Clevenger's House. A-M Bring a side dish, N-Z Bring a dessert.
- **Christmas Decorating** - 11/19 After 2nd Service
- **Singles 30+ Friendsgiving Feast** - 11/23 at 4pm - Singles 30+ are welcome to join for our Friendsgiving Event