

## **New Life Because We've Been Made New**

### **2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

#### **Introduction:**

##### **A. Welcome**

1. New three week series: New Life
2. Will arch together the ladies retreat and the men's retreat themes.
3. Our overarching scripture is 2 Corinthians 5:17 (**Verse On Screen**)

##### **B. New things are cool.**

1. New cars, new houses, new clothes, new puppies, new babies.
2. While the love grows, the newness can wear off. It can get tough.

##### **C. Do you ever feel that way in your relationship with Christ?**

1. Like the newness has worn off?
2. That is a lie from the enemy.

##### **D. The Word of God tells us different. Today...**

1. Text is 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
2. Title New life Because We've Been Made New

#### **I We Are New – 5:17 *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!***

##### **A. This text hits two aspects of newness: Justification and Sanctification.**

##### **B. Justification aspect of newness. This is our text in 5:17.**

1. It has to do with a status change. Notice *"the new creation has come"*
  - a. Creation indicating there was nothing like this before.
  - b. What was there is gone.
2. Why the need for this status change?
3. There was a legal charge against us because of sin.
  - a. We owed a debt that we could not pay. We deserved death.
  - b. Yet the debt was paid.
4. Justified aspect of made new is described as ...
  - a. Dead to alive

- b. Guilty to innocent
  - c. Lost to found
  - d. Rebellion to surrender
5. How? In Christ Jesus. Rom 3:23-24 NIV - *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **and** all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.*

### **C. Sanctification aspect of newness can now happen.**

1. From that newness in Christ, we grown in newness. We are transformed.
  - a. It's where we live. It's what we do day by day.
  - b. As long as we are tied to this flesh, we will struggle.
  - c. Some scars of a sinful life or the sins of other put upon us run deep in our lives.
  - d. Yet we don't live in the pain our scars. We live in the promise of our Savior.
2. We live in promise verses like...
  - a. Grow in the grace and knowledge of our lord and savior Jesus Christ - 2 Peter 3:18
  - b. Work out your salvation with fear and trembling – Phil 2:12
  - c. Be transformed by the renewing of your mind. – Rom 12:2
  - d. Put to death therefore the deeds of the flesh – Col 3:5
3. We will flesh this idea out more next week.

### **D. Ladies Retreat Theme: Made New (Cynthia and Kaitlyn)**

1. This text was one of the key verses during the ladies retreat this weekend.
2. **Cynthia:** How did you land on this theme? And this verse (searched the made new scriptures)
3. **Kaitlyn:** How did you flesh this theme out through the weekend? ***You hit both sides of Newness: justification and sanctification.***
4. How were you made new in this process?
5. What made new experiences did you witness this weekend?

6. If you were to “bottom line” the “made new” challenge of the weekend what would it be?

**E. In Christ, we are new in our status and in our walk in this life.**

1. The enemy will try to deceive us into thinking because we struggle we are not new, but we struggle in our newness.
2. The newness doesn't wear off.
3. It gets better

**II We Have New Eyes ... (New Perspective/We see different)**

**A. On Christ...5:16** *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.*

1. Before knowing Jesus how did you think of him?
2. Our view of Christ changes when we come into relationship with him.

**B. On Others – 5:16-18a** *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. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them.*

1. We see people through the eyes of Jesus.
2. Those in Christ we see as a brother or sister, reconciled to Jesus. We give grace, we give love, we help them grow as we grow in grace and love and patience
3. Those outside of Jesus, we see them needing Jesus.

**C. On Our Purpose – 5:18b-20** *And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 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.*

1. Notice the phrasing of these verses
  - a. *“We are therefore Christ's ambassadors”*
    - (1) We represent Jesus.
    - (2) You represent more than yourself.

(3) Therefore we watch our life closely, because when we claim to be in Christ our life is being watched closely.

b. “Committed to us the message of reconciliation.” “As though Christ were making his appeal through us”

2. His message is now our message.

3. Our appeal is this, “Jesus made me new. Jesus can make you new.”

**Conclusion:**

A. *2Co 5:21 NIV - God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

1. You're baptized into Christ and the excitement is there. There are hugs, applause, and celebration.

2. You come home after a retreat tired, full of great food, Spirit's flame burning hot.

3. Then you have to go to work or school the next day. Step back into situations that remind you that even though you are new, you walk in an old and broken world.

4. If we let it, that can take the edge off the newness. The pollution and traffic of this world we operate in can cause the outside luster to fade away.

B. But our newness does not fade because we understand newness different.

C. We are new (justified in Christ) and are being made new (sanctification) day by day.

D. That only happens in Jesus.

E. Offer invite.