

**BELIEVE
BELONG
BECOME**

**A Sermon Series By
Dr. Hampton Drum**

Our Ministry to Make Christ Known

2 Corinthians 4:1-12

Introduction:

“I am a walking, living advertisement for the Lord. Every day I create incriminating evidence to prove that I am a follower of Christ.”

- David Jeremiah

I. Our aim in the ministry is to make Christ known.

A. It is our aim to manifest His truth before the believing.

2 Corinthians 4:1 *Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; (V.2) But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.*

“The Bible’s worship celebrations are often full of brightness, spontaneity, and joy. The early Christians had something that fire could not burn, swords could not kill, water could not drown, and jail could not hold. They knew the holiness, loveliness, and glory of God in a life-changing way and loved to praise Him freely for all He had done for them. You can too!”

- Adrian Rogers

B. It is our aim to manifest His truth before the blind.

2 Corinthians 4:3 *But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: (V.4) In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*

“Many delude themselves about the presence of evil in their lives. It’s like purposefully removing all the black keys from the piano. Once you do that, the white keys no longer produce a melody. If we edit the sin out of our awareness, then grace no longer has any beauty or power for us. In due time we wonder why we need a Savior at all.”

- Cornelius Plantinga Jr.

II. Our anthem in the ministry is to make Christ known.

A. Our anthem is one that has its subject of Christ alone.

2 Corinthians 4:5 *For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. (V.6) For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

B. Our anthem is one that has a submission to Christ alone.

2 Corinthians 4:7 *But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.*

“My dream is to live for Christ, die and be forgotten.”

- Count Zinzendorf

III. Our ambition in the ministry is to make Christ known.

“My ambition is not just to survive, not even to stalemate, if we don't advance the cause of Christ, corruption will encroach upon our territory, hold us ransom, stunt our ministry, and cause our voice to grow low.”

A. Our ambition is to die that He might live in us.

2 Corinthians 4:8 *We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; (V.9) Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; (V.10) Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.*

“Realizing the desperation of our society and how busy our own personal lives are, we are gripped with the reality that something must die in order that life may be birthed forth.”

B. Our ambition is to die that He might live through us.

2 Corinthians 4:11 *For we which live are alway delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. (V.12) So then death worketh in us, but life in you.*