

Bible Study: “God’s Call to Reconciliation”

(2 Corinthians 5:11–21, KJV)

1. Knowing the Weight of the Lord (v.11)

Scripture (KJV):

“Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men...”

Meaning:

Paul reminds believers that understanding God’s holiness and judgment should move us to **care about people’s souls**. The fear of the Lord is not meant to paralyze us, but to motivate us to **persuade others to come to Christ**.

Encouragement:

When we truly understand how serious eternity is, we become more intentional about loving people, speaking truth, and pointing them to Jesus.

2. The Love of Christ Changes Us (v.14–15)

Scripture (KJV):

“For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead.”

Meaning:

Christ’s love **controls and compels** our lives. Jesus died so that believers would no longer live only for themselves, but for Him.

Encouragement:

Christian living is not about rules alone—it is about **being motivated by Christ’s love**. When we remember the cross, it changes how we live, treat people, and make decisions.

3. A New Life Begins in Christ (v.17)

Scripture (KJV):

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

Meaning:

Salvation is not simply improvement—it is **transformation**. In Christ, the past does not define the future.

Encouragement:

No matter what mistakes someone has made, God has the power to give them **a brand-new beginning**.

4. God's Ministry of Reconciliation (v.18–19)

Scripture (KJV):

“And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation.”

Meaning:

Through Jesus, God restored the broken relationship between humanity and Himself. But God did more than save us—He **gave believers a mission** to help others be reconciled to Him.

Encouragement:

Every Christian has a purpose:

- Share the gospel
 - Encourage others toward God
 - Help people reconnect with the Lord
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5. We Are Christ's Ambassadors (v.20)

Scripture (KJV):

“Now then we are ambassadors for Christ...”

Meaning:

An ambassador represents a king in a foreign land. Christians represent **King Jesus in the world**.

Encouragement:

Our words, character, and actions should reflect Christ wherever we go—at work, school, home, or church.

6. The Great Exchange of the Gospel (v.21)

Scripture (KJV):

“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”

Meaning:

Jesus, who never sinned, took our sin upon Himself so that we could receive **His righteousness**. This is the heart of the gospel.

Encouragement:

Because of Jesus:

- Our guilt can be forgiven
 - Our lives can be restored
 - Our relationship with God can be made right
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Key Takeaways

- The fear of the Lord motivates us to care about souls.
 - Christ’s love compels us to live differently.
 - In Christ, anyone can become a new creation.
 - Every believer is called to the ministry of reconciliation.
 - We represent Christ as His ambassadors.
 - Jesus took our sin so we could receive His righteousness.
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Closing Encouragement

2 Corinthians 5 reminds us that the gospel is ***not only about being saved—it is about being sent***. God reconciled us through Jesus Christ, and now He calls us to help bring others back to Him.

Reflection Question:

Who in your life needs to experience the reconciliation that Christ offers?