

STRENGTH in WEAKNESS

Ambassadors for Christ

2 Corinthians 5:11-20 (ESV)

¹¹ Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. ¹² We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart. ¹³ For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴ For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵ and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. ¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

The **backstory** ...

The **big picture** ...

Whatever else we do in life, our primary purpose is ...

Why?

We are _____ of the fearful reality of _____
_____ for all people.

2 Corinthians 5:10-11a (ESV)

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹¹ Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others.

We are _____ and _____ by
_____ for us and others.

Paul's motive starts in his _____.

He knows that God's love is both _____ and _____.

*The desire to see people turn to Christ might cause us to appear
_____ to some.*

Am I willing?

We are _____ in God's ability to _____ and
_____ anyone who will call on Him.

What is the evidence here of genuine conversion?

Why we shouldn't write anyone off ...

What does God promise to do in and for those who come to Him?

Finally, as reconciled people, we _____ our _____
and _____ to be _____, so we accept our
assignment as reconcilers.