

Studies in

2 Corinthians



Lesson IX

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:12-21 (NKJV)

12 For we do not commend ourselves again to you, but give you opportunity to boast on our behalf, that you may have an answer for those who boast in appearance and not in heart. **13** For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; or if we are of sound mind, it is for you. **14** For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; **15** and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

16 Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. **17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. **18** Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, **19** that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. **21** For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Discussion Questions

1. How did Paul gain credibility in the eyes of the Corinthians? (vs. 12)

2. Was Paul bothered by what others said about him?
(vs. 13)

3. What motivates us to take the Good News of Jesus to others? (vs. 14-15)

4. Who are you living for, really? (vs. 15)

5. Why are we to “regard no one according to the flesh”?
(vs. 16)

6. How should we look at the other members of God’s family according to verse 17?

7. What has “passed away” in your life? What has “become new”? (vs. 17)

8. What kind of ministry has God entrusted to our care? (vs. 18, 20)

9. What message of hope do we share? (vs. 19, 21)