

2 Corinthians 5:11-21

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| v11 – persuade | (verb) | convince someone that something is true |
| v11 – conscience | (noun) | inner sense of right and wrong |
| v12 – commend | (verb) | praise in a formal way |
| v12 – ‘take pride in’ | | feel proud of |
| v13 – ‘for the sake of’ | | for the benefit of |
| v13 – compels | (verb) | forces to do something |
| v16 – regard | (verb) | think about something in a certain way |
| v17 – creation | (noun) | something that has been made |
| v18 – reconciled | (verb) | made to be friends again after a conflict |
| v18 – ministry | (noun) | work done to serve others in God’s name |
| v18 – reconciliation | (noun) | the process of becoming friends again after a conflict |
| v19 – sins | (noun) | rebellion against God |
| v20 – ambassadors | (noun) | official representatives of a foreign country |
| v20 – appeal | (noun) | a serious and urgent request |
| v20 – implore | (verb) | ask in a forceful, emotional way |
| v21 – righteousness | (noun) | the quality of always doing what is right in God’s sight |

2 Corinthians 5:11-21 (New International Reader’s Version)

¹¹We know what it means to have respect for the Lord. So we try to help other people to understand it. What we are is plain to God. I hope it is also plain to your way of thinking. ¹²We are not trying to make an appeal to you again. But we are giving you a chance to take pride in us. Some people take pride in their looks rather than what’s in their hearts. If you take pride in us, you will be able to answer them. ¹³Are we “out of our minds,” as some people say? If so, it is because we want to serve God. Does what we say make sense? If so, it is because we want to serve you. ¹⁴Christ’s love controls us. We are sure that one person died for everyone. And so everyone died. ¹⁵Christ died for everyone. He died so that those who live should not live for themselves anymore. They should live for Christ. He died for them and was raised again.

¹⁶So from now on we don’t look at anyone the way the world does. At one time we looked at Christ in that way. But we don’t anymore. ¹⁷When anyone lives in Christ, the new creation has come. The old is gone! The new is here! ¹⁸All this is from God. He brought us back to himself through Christ’s death on the cross. And he has given us the task of bringing others back to him through Christ. ¹⁹God was bringing the world back to himself through Christ. He did not hold people’s sins against them. God has trusted us with the message that people may be brought back to him. ²⁰So we are Christ’s official messengers. It is as if God were making his appeal through us. Here is what Christ wants us to beg you to do. Come back to God! ²¹Christ didn’t have any sin. But God made him become sin for us. So we can be made right with God because of what Christ has done for us.

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Sundays
6:15-6:45pm
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