

Sermon: The Discipline of Evangelism.
Series: Disciplines of Grace.

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:11-21.
Date: January 21, 2024

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) Where (in what places) do you represent Christ to others? Where are you actively sharing the good news with others?
- b) What motivates your evangelism? Duty? Fear? Love?

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

- a) Paul speaks of two motivations for our evangelism: 1) The fear of the Lord (v.11), and 2) The love of Christ (v.14). Which tends to motivate you more? Why is it necessary for us to have both of these as motivations at the same time?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

- a) Verse 21 describes what Martin Luther called "The Great Exchange." Can you explain this exchange to others in your group? How did the cross accomplish this exchange?
- b) Read v.17. Our evangelism offers people a new identity as a new creation in Christ. How is this different from offering someone law-based religion? Can others tell that you are a new creation in Christ? How?

APPLICATION

- a) Read v. 16. In order to be motivated to evangelize we must have a new outlook that sees people beyond their outward appearance. How would you evaluate yourself in this area? Are you able to see people the way God does?
- b) Read v. 20. What might change in your life the more you embrace your role as Christ's ambassador? Choices? Attitudes? Priorities? Think about this phrase: "That those who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Christ." (v. 15)

PRAYER

- Acknowledge God's judgment and his love.
- Confess ways that you have lived for yourself rather than for Christ.
- Thank Jesus for the Great Exchange!
- Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your opportunities and your motivation in evangelism.