

LIFEGROUP NOTES: 2CORINTHIANS 5:11-21

As ever, please use (or discard!) these ideas as is most suitable for your group. Don't feel you have to use everything!

Read 2Corinthians 5:11-21

1. See v.11: What is meant by fearing the Lord, and how do you react to this concept? How did the fear of the Lord give shape to Paul's life? How does the coming judgement affect the way you live today, especially in terms of sharing the gospel with others?
2. The coming judgement is a legitimate motivation for evangelism, but it isn't the most important. What is it that absolutely compels Paul to share the gospel (v.14)? Can you explain how this works as a motivation? What is it that most compels the direction of your life?
3. See v.15: Christ's love motivates us to live for whom? Why? For whom are you living?
4. In v.16 Paul refers to our habit of assessing people by worldly values, especially their outward appearance. Why are we so prone to doing this? How does the gospel overturn all such assessments (v.17)?
5. We sometimes fail to share the gospel with people because we've already concluded they won't become Christians! How should v.17 cause us to think again? Is there anyone you need to think differently about?
6. What is our message, according to vv.18-19? How would you explain "the ministry of reconciliation"?
7. From whom does the reconciliation come (v.19)? How is it achieved (v.21). How would you explain v.21 to a non-Christian?
8. How is God's heart for people revealed in v.20? How would we have to live and speak for God's heart to be seen in us in this way?

In conclusion:

- To whom specifically could you be an ambassador of Christ? Ask God to make you an effective ambassador.

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