

The Ministry Of Reconciliation

I. **2 Cor 3:18** - *“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory.”*

A. The more accurately we see Him the more thoroughly we are changed.

1. As you behold the glory of His grace, you transformed into the same image - gracious
2. As you behold the glory of His mercy, you transformed into the same image - merciful
3. As you behold the glory of His joy, you transformed into the same image - joyful

B. This evening and tomorrow morning I want you to give you four glimpses into the glory of His heart for the lost which will then transform you into a seeker of the lost - an ambassador for Christ

II. **2 Corinthians 5:18-21** - Reconcile means to restore to previous favor or to restore to its's original intended condition

A. **Glimpse #1: Verse 18** - You can't be reconciled to God without then becoming a reconciler for God.

1. **If you don't become a reconciler of the lost, you will become an evaluator of the saved.**
 - a. **There is something inherit in our new nature that wants to see people get right with God.**
 - b. If we don't direct it at the lost - we will direct it at the saved.
 - c. **Instead of pursuing sinner - you will be policing the Saints**
2. When those who are called to fish don't fish, they fight.

B. **Glimpse #2: Verse 19** - You can't count trespasses and reconcile at the same time.

1. The Greek word for “count” is “logizomai” which means “treat accordingly.”

Luke 6:35-36 - *“God is kind to the ungrateful and evil men & be merciful like your father.”*

- a. This verse tells us that you can't treat people according to their sins if you want to reconcile their souls
 - b. **Jesus didn't count before you got saved and He is not counting now (pitcher) Jer 18**
2. God hates sin, but He loves sinners
 - a. **God loves based on who He is - He overlooks your past and your future**

b. Jesus doesn't count - He covers

1 Peter 4:8 - *“keep fervent in your love for others, because love covers a multitude of sins.”*

James 5:20 - *“let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.”*

c. **Love covers sins - The law counts sins (Satin Sheet Slayer)**

3. Jesus knew you can't minister to people you don't love - Matthew 10:5-8

4. If you don't have a burden for their souls, you will count the sins of their lives.

a. Mark Twain - Christians are good in the worse sense of the word.

b. Little girl - Lord, please make the bad people good and the good people nice.

C. **Glimpse #3: Verse 19** - God has committed to us a word of reconciliation.

word of wisdom **or** word of knowledge

1. The word for committed is **“tithemi”** which means to *“place within or to assign to you.”*

a. A word placed within you will reconcile a sinner

1) I have found that you can't effectively and consistently share your faith out of **duty** it has to be from **desire** or love.

2 Corinthians 5:14 states, *“For Christ's love compels us.”* (NIV)

2) **Duty** will cause you to call the fire department if you see a house on fire
Duty will cause you to call 911 if you see a crime being committed
Duty will cause you throw a life preserver if you see someone drowning

3) **Duty** will cause you to go the first mile, but only **desire** will cause you to go the 2nd
Duty will cause you to do just enough, but only **desire** will cause you to do more than
Duty will cause you to do what is required, only **desire** will cause you to do what is

b. An assigned word will reconcile an aspect of sinfulness

2. If you are faithful with the word that has been placed in you for a sinner, He will then assign you a word for some aspect of lostness

a. James Dobson has a word that will reconcile families

b. Gary Smalley has word that will reconcile marriages

c. John Maxwell has a word that will reconcile Leadership

-If we minister to the needs of their lives it will open them up for the needs of their souls.

-It is in ministering to the natural that will open them up to the spiritual.

-Before they will deal with eternal issues they must have the temporal ones attended to.

3. This word comes as a result of what God has reconciled you from and through.

Isaiah 51:1 - (Regard - Pay attention to)

If You can see how you were dug by God it will teach you how to dig for God.

- a. What delivers you will also direct you.
- b. What ministers to you will also move you.**
- c. What feeds you will also focus you.
- d. What saves you will also send you.**
- e. What brings change to you will also bring change to others.

4. Because I was dug from the quarry of drug addiction, repeated incarcerations and a life of laziness and failure,

5. God has assigned to me a word that will reconcile the addicted, the incarcerated, and the unproductive.

D. If you will quit being an evaluator of the saved and start becoming a reconciler of the lost,

If you quit counting sin and start covering sin,

And if you are faithful with the word of reconciliation that God has placed within you for a sinner

In your faithfulness God will assign to you a word of reconciliation for some aspect of sinfulness,

Then you will become an “Ambassador For Christ” where you will let God do His pleading through you.

This is Glimpse # 4 and I will share it with you on Sunday morning.