

Bible Study Lesson from 2 Corinthians
Theme: Witnessing the Shared Word
Lesson #1 - Becoming Christ's Faithful Witnesses

Scripture Lesson: 2 Corinthians 3:1-18

Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 3:6

Proposition: The Holy Spirit empowers believers to be bold witnesses for Christ in lost world

1. The Holy Spirit has made us living epistles. (1-3)

- a. We are the epistles that people can read. (1, 2)
- b. We are epistles for Christ. (3)
 - i. We are written not ink, but with the Spirit of the Living God.
 - ii. We are written not on tablets of stone, but on tablets of flesh. (heart)

2. The Holy Spirit has made us ministers of a new covenant. (4-6)

- a. Our sufficiency as witnesses is of God. (4, 5)
- b. Our covenant is not of the letter, but of the Spirit. (6)
 - i. The letter kills.
 - ii. The Spirit gives life.

3. The Holy Spirit has given us a superior ministry. (7-12)

- a. He has not given us a ministry of death. (7, 8)
- b. He has not given us a ministry of condemnation, but of righteousness. (9)
- c. He has not given us a ministry that is temporal, but one that is eternal. (10-12)

4. The Holy Spirit has given us spiritual vision. (13-16)

- a. Without the illumination of the Holy Spirit, we are unable to see spiritually. (13-15)
- b. When we turn to the Lord, our spiritual blindness is removed, and we can see. (16)

5. The Holy Spirit has given us liberty in Christ Jesus. (17-18)

- a. When we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit, we experience liberty. (17)
- b. Liberty is the Holy Spirit transforming us into the image of Christ. (18)

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Theme: Witnessing the Shared Word
Lesson #2 – Faithfully Sharing Christ’s Gospel
Scripture Lesson: 2 Corinthians 4:1-18
Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 4:5-6

Proposition: As Faithful believers, we share Christ’s gospel message and God will shine Christ’s light through us.

1. We are to share Christ’s gospel with courage. (1)

- a. God has given us this ministry of evangelism.
- b. God has brought us into Grace.
- c. God has given us courage so that we do not lose heart.

2. We are to share Christ’s gospel with integrity. (2)

- a. We are to renounce the hidden things of shame.
- b. We are not to in craftiness.
- c. We are not to handle the word of God deceitfully.
- d. We are to commend ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.

3. We are to share Christ’s gospel with confidence. (3-6)

- a. We are to share the gospel even though it is veiled to those who are perishing. (3)
- b. We are to share the gospel even though Satan has blinded those who don’t believe. (4)
- c. We are to share the gospel by proclaiming Jesus Christ and not ourselves. (5)
- d. We are to share the gospel and trust God to shine the light of Christ’s gospel. (4,6)

4. We are to share Christ’s gospel with humility. (7)

- a. We have been entrusted with life’s most precious treasure, the gospel of Christ.
- b. We must remember that the excellency of the power is of God and not of us.

5. We are to share Christ’s gospel with tenacity. (8-16)

- a. We are to share the gospel in spite of pressures, perplexities and persecutions. (8,9)
- b. We are to share the gospel even if it means dying for the sake of Christ. (10-12)
- c. We are to share the gospel and trust God to raise us out of any situation. (13-14)
- d. We are to share the gospel, for it causes thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.(15)
- e. We are to share the gospel despite physical deterioration and for spiritual renewal. (16)

6. We are to share Christ’s gospel with eternal perspective. (17-18)

- a. We are to share the gospel because our momentary afflictions result in eternal rewards.
- b. We are to share the gospel with our focus on the invisible and the eternal. (18)

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Lesson #3 – Faithfully Serving as Christ’s Ambassadors

Scripture Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:1-21

Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:20

Proposition: As Christ’s ambassadors, believers serve as God’s representatives to the world.

1. As Christ’s ambassadors, believers are comforted by the assurance of resurrection.

(1-8)

- a. We are assured that when these bodies die, we will have new resurrected bodies. (1)
- b. We are anxious to be clothed with immortality. (2-4)
- c. We are guaranteed resurrected bodies by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. (5)
- d. We are confident in life and in death because we walk by faith and not by sight. (6-8)
 - i. We know that to be at home in the body is to be absent from the Lord.
 - ii. We prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

2. As Christ’s ambassadors, believers are certain about the Judgment seat of Christ. (9-

11)

- a. Our aim in life or in death is to please God. (9)
- b. Our aim is to receive recognition and rewards from God and not man. (10)
 - i. We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ to give an account for deeds.
 - ii. We must all receive our just reward and recognition from God.
- c. Our aim is to persuade people to prepare for the day of judgment. (11)
 - i. The terror of the Lord is real.
 - ii. The knowledge of the Lord is complete.

3. As Christ’s ambassadors, believers are committed to the ministry of reconciliation.

(12-21)

- a. The love of Christ compels us to live for Him and not for ourselves. (12-15)
- b. The redemption of Christ transforms us into new creatures. (16, 17)
- c. The example of Christ inspires us to share in the ministry of reconciliation. (18-20)
 - i. God has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ. (18)
 - ii. God has given to us the ministry of reconciliation. (18)
 - iii. God has given to us the message of reconciliation. (19)
 - iv. God has given to us the mandate of reconciliation. (20)
- d. The propitiation of Christ has made us the righteousness of God. (21)

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Lesson #4 – Faithfully Living as Christ’s Servants

Scripture Lesson: 2 Corinthians 6:1-7:1

Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 7:1

Proposition: As Christ’s faithful servants, believers must perfect holiness in the fear of the Lord.

- 1. As Christ’s servants, believers must plead with people to take advantage of God’s grace while it is being offered. (1-2)**
 - a. God will hear only during the acceptable time. (2)
 - b. God will help only in the day of salvation. (2)
- 2. As Christ’s servants believers must let nothing in our lives bring blame on our ministry. (3)**
- 3. As Christ’s servants believers must live as ministers of God. (4-10)**
 - a. We must live as Christ’s servants in every situation. (4, 5)
 - b. We must live as Christ’s servants by all means. (6-8)
 - c. We must live as Christ’s servants among many paradoxes. (8-10)
- 4. As Christ’s servants believers must speak openly with those to whom we minister. (11-13)**
 - a. We must open our hearts to them. (11)
 - b. We must encourage them to speak openly to us. (12, 13)
- 5. As Christ’s servants believers must perfect holiness in the fear of God. (6:14-7:1)**
 - a. We cannot enter partnerships with unbelievers. (6:14)
 - b. We cannot mix the things of light with the things of darkness. (6:14-16)
 - c. We cannot be in fellowship with God and in fellowship with the world also. (6:17-18)
 - d. We must cleanse ourselves from all filthiness. (7:1)
 - i. We must cleanse ourselves from the filthiness of the flesh.
 - ii. We must cleanse ourselves from the filthiness of the spirit.