

Resurrection Life

MESSAGE: NATHAN BAIRD

MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH

DATE: JUNE 5, 2022

**We Can't Help Ourselves:
Jesus' evaluation of us – and love for us – compels our service!
2 Corinthians 5:11-15**

Key Ideas from Verses 5:1-10

- Physical death doesn't discourage us...God prepared & guarantees our eternal bodies (vv. 1,5)
- Life is simplified..we focus on putting a smile on Jesus's face, now and in eternity (v. 9)
- Our suffering and service aren't wasted...Jesus will justly reward our faithful conduct (v. 10)

We endure criticism by remembering the One whose evaluation really matters.

2 Cor. 5: 11b But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. 12 We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart. 13 For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.

- Living to please Jesus gives us confidence in our positive evaluation before God (v. 11b)
2 Cor. 2:17 For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.
- Living to please Jesus frees us from obsessing over our reputation (vv. 12-13)
2 Cor. 10:18 For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.

Our awed expectation of facing Jesus motivates our gospel sharing.

2 Cor. 5: 11a Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others.

Remember the character and content of our message?
2 Cor. 4:2b by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God... 5 For what we proclaim is ... Jesus Christ as Lord,

Jesus's sacrificial love radically changes the purpose of our lives.

- Jesus's death on the cross now defines the life of love
2 Cor. 5:14a For the love of Christ controls us,

1 John 3:16 By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.
- Through his self-giving love, Jesus tasted death so we wouldn't have to
2 Cor. 5:14b because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died;

Rom. 6:10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.
- Jesus' death for our sake frees us to live lives of self-giving love for his sake
2 Cor. 5:15 ...and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

Gal. 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Reflection/Discussion

1. Whose opinion of you most shapes your actions and decisions? How would your relationships change if Jesus's evaluation of your life was the only thing that mattered to you? How would your emotional life be different?
2. Do you feel driven by an affectionate gratitude for Jesus's love for you? Compare 2 Cor. 5:14-15 with Titus 2:13-14. How do Christ's motivation, actions and purposes in these passages relate to our response to what he has done?
3. What's one step you can take to grow in your affection so that you "live for him who for [your] sake died and was raised"? Share this with someone who can pray for you and encourage you.

SONGS

"KING OF HEAVEN" - Paul Baloche and Jason Ingram

"LORD, I NEED YOU" - D. Carson, M. Maher, C. Nockels, J. Reeves, and K. Stanfill

"ALL HAIL KING JESUS" - Ran Jackson, Peter Mattis, Jeremy Riddle, and Steffany Gretzinger

"O PRAISE THE NAME [ANASTASIS]" - Dean Ussher, Marty Sampson, and Benjamin Hastings

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 38,482.22

WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,093.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$738,270.52

Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$794,046.00