

Created Equal

FOR REAL, THOUGH

gRoup/fAMILY

SESSION 1

- Watch the sermon “The Prophet Profit?” on The Redemption Church YouTube Channel.
- Apply your life to the Bible alongside your group or family with the honest questions in this lesson.



This Week's Sermon expounds 2 Corinthians 5. Today, we dive into chapter 6.
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CONTEXT

Paul wrote 2 Corinthians while defending both the authenticity of his apostleship and the gospel ministry entrusted to him. Some in Corinth questioned his authority because his life was marked by suffering rather than worldly success. Yet Paul argued that hardship often authenticated faithful ministry because it reflected Christ's own path. Corinth was a prosperous, pagan city filled with temples, idol worship, competing philosophies, and moral compromise. Christians lived among unbelieving neighbors every day, making their witness especially important. In chapter 6, Paul called believers to represent Christ with integrity, endurance, and holiness so that nothing would discredit the gospel. His emphasis was not merely personal holiness but living in such a way that others could clearly see God's offer of reconciliation through Jesus Christ.

THE BIG IDEA OF THE TEXT

Paul called believers to display holy, enduring lives that commended Christ and advanced His ministry of reconciliation.

CONNECTING THE SESSION TO THE SERMON:

Second Corinthians 6 naturally continues Paul's teaching from chapter 5. In chapter 5, believers were made new creations through Christ, entrusted with the ministry of reconciliation, and commissioned as Christ's ambassadors. Chapter 6 demonstrates what faithful ambassadors look like in everyday life. Paul showed that gospel ministry requires perseverance through suffering, genuine love, truthful speech, moral purity, and complete dependence upon God's power. Both chapters emphasize that reconciliation with God is never meant to remain private. Those who have been reconciled become visible representatives of Christ whose lives, character, and message invite others to be reconciled to God as well. Holiness and evangelism work together because a credible witness strengthens the proclamation of the gospel.

BIBLICAL TEXT (CSB) – 2 CORINTHIANS 6

Working together with him, we also appeal to you, “Don’t receive the grace of God in vain.”

² For he says:

**At an acceptable time I listened to you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you** [Isaiah 49:8].

See, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation!

³ We are not giving anyone an occasion for offense, so that the ministry will not be blamed. ⁴ Instead, as God’s ministers, we commend ourselves in everything: by great endurance, by afflictions, by hardships, by difficulties, ⁵ by beatings, by imprisonments, by riots, by labors, by sleepless nights, by times of hunger, ⁶ by purity, by knowledge, by patience, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, ⁷ by the word of truth, by the power of God; through weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left, ⁸ through glory and dishonor, through slander and good report; regarded as deceivers, yet true; ⁹ as unknown, yet recognized; as dying, yet see—we live; as being disciplined, yet not killed; ¹⁰ as grieving, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet enriching many; as having nothing, yet possessing everything. ¹¹ We have spoken openly to you, Corinthians; our heart has been opened wide. ¹² We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us. ¹³ I speak as to my children; as a proper response, open your heart to us.

¹⁴ Do not be yoked together with those who do not believe. For what partnership is there between righteousness and lawlessness? Or what fellowship does light have with darkness? ¹⁵ What agreement does Christ have with Belial? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ And what agreement does the temple of God have with idols? For we are the temple of the living God, as God said:

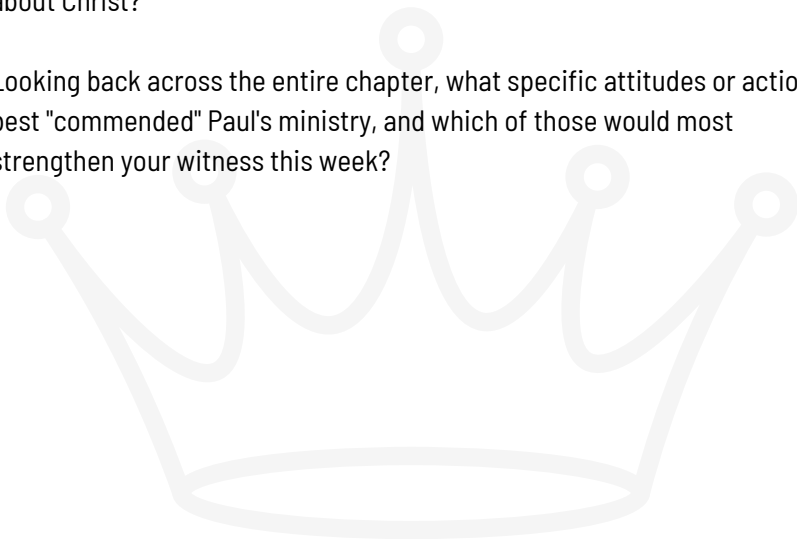
**I will dwell
and walk among them,
and I will be their God,
and they will be my people.**

¹⁷ **Therefore, come out from among them
and be separate, says the Lord;
do not touch any unclean thing,
and I will welcome you.**

¹⁸ **And I will be a Father to you,
and you will be sons and daughters to me,
says the Lord Almighty** [2Sm 7:14; Is 43:6; 49:22; 60:4; Hs 1:10].

APPLYING OUR LIVES TO THE TEXT TOGETHER

- After reading verses 1-2, why did Paul stress that now is the day of salvation, and how should that urgency shape the way we share the gospel with others?
- Looking through verses 3-10, which qualities of Paul's ministry would make unbelievers more willing to listen to his message, and which qualities challenge your own witness?
- According to verses 11-13, how did Paul's genuine love for the Corinthians strengthen his ministry, and how can sincere relationships create opportunities to share Christ?
- Reviewing verses 14-16, how can maintaining biblical distinctiveness actually strengthen our gospel witness instead of isolating us from the people who need Jesus?
- In verses 16-18, God promised to dwell among His people and call them His children. How does that identity give believers confidence when speaking about Christ?
- Looking back across the entire chapter, what specific attitudes or actions best "commended" Paul's ministry, and which of those would most strengthen your witness this week?



THE TAKEAWAY: SO WHAT CHURCH?

We will live with integrity, proclaim Christ boldly, and trust Jesus, who fulfilled God's covenant promises and reconciles sinners to the Father!

FOR PARENTS:

SHOW YOUR KIDS JESUS IN THIS PASSAGE

God always wanted people from every nation to know Him. Long ago He promised that He would live with His people and be their God. Those promises pointed forward to Jesus. Jesus came to rescue us from our sins so we could become God's children. After Jesus rose from the dead, He sent His followers to tell everyone the good news. Paul taught that the way Christians live should help others see how wonderful Jesus is. When we are honest, kind, faithful, and courageous, people can see that Jesus has changed our hearts. Then we can gladly tell them that they, too, can be forgiven and become part of God's family through faith in Christ.

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OTHER OFFERINGS

With an abundance of Bible Books to cover just like this study, there's plenty more to explore and learn from JCM, such as:

- The Seven Thunders: The Book of Revelation for Groups
- And Then You Will Know: The Book of Ezekiel for Groups
- Daniel: The Book of Daniel for Groups
- Dear Skeptical Friend: The Gospel of Luke for Groups
- Holy Dissident: Isaiah for Groups
- Letters to My Sons: The Pastoral Epistles
- Into The Fray: I Corinthians
- The God of All Comfort: II Corinthians
- Reason For Hope: 6 Apologetic Sessions for Groups
- The Sacred Acts: Ordinances of the Church
- The Revival Project: A Transformative Study of Nehemiah
- And many more!



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ABOUT JCM

Dr. Jesse Campbell is the founder and head Pastor of The Redemption Church, located on the outskirts of Seattle, WA. Jesse has a strong calling to preach the Bible as it is written. In the midst of a socially and religiously starving culture, his biblical foundation for understanding and preaching the gospel in a strong, clear, and concise manner has earned him a large following in a short amount of time. He's grown the JCM platform quickly, has been featured on national radio shows, and has been a guest speaker across the nation at many churches and large events.

Originally from the Pensacola, FL area, Jesse moved with his family to Nashville and worked at Lifeway Publishing for a while before completing his pastoral education. He was led to launch his own biblically-based church, The Redemption Church, in 2020.

Jesse is married to his wife, Jessi, and they have 4 children. Together they also run a conference for bereaved parents, in memory of their son, Aiden, called Aiden's Hope. When Jesse and Jessi aren't investing their time in JCM or The Redemption Church, you can find them on the bleachers cheering on many baseball and football games or mountain biking and snowboarding in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.