



TITLE | The Greatest Gift Exchange
SERIES | Beyond Our Strength
TEXT | 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
BY | Bob Kerrey
DATE | December 18, 2021

SERMON NOTES

2 Corinthians 5:16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. **17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. **18** All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; **19** that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. **20** Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. **21** For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. *ESV*

BIG IDEA:

Text questions during the sermon: 623-850-8809

2 Corinthians 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. *ESV*

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read 2 Corinthians 5:16. What does it mean to regard others "according to the flesh?" How had Paul once regarded Christ in this way? What is a better way to regard others?

Tuesday:

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. What does it mean to be "in Christ?" In what way is the one in Christ "a new creation?"

Wednesday:

Read 2 Corinthians 5:18-19. What does it mean to be reconciled to God? Why is it necessary? What does it have to do with Christmas?

Thursday:

Read 2 Corinthians 5:18-20. Paul says God "gave us the ministry of reconciliation . . . entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ." How does this apply to you?

Friday:

Read 2 Corinthians 5:21. According to this verse, how are we reconciled to God? What exchange takes place? What must we do before the exchange takes place? How is this the greatest gift exchange ever, and how does it relate to Christmas?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, thank you for the greatest gift exchange ever: my sin for your righteousness through Jesus Christ, whom we celebrate this Christmas. Amen.