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## Reaching Out: Learning From an Evangelizer

2 Corinthians 5:8-21 – 6:1-10

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**What compelled Paul to do what he did? A success in every human sense of the word, he set aside his personal accomplishments and made disciple-making his life's purpose. Verbally appointed to be an apostle by Jesus Himself, Paul gives us a sense of what kept him evangelizing. We can observe at least 10 characteristics from the heart of Paul that motivated him, and which should motivate us to evangelize as well:**

### 1. A Sober Sense of Ultimate Accountability

<sup>8</sup> We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

<sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

<sup>11</sup> Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.

### 2. A Humble Desire to Walk the Talk

<sup>12</sup> For we do not commend ourselves again to you, but give you opportunity to boast on our behalf, that you may have *an answer* for those who boast in appearance and not in heart.

<sup>13</sup> For if we are beside ourselves, *it is* for God; or if we are of sound mind, *it is* for you.

### 3. A Logical Understanding of Christ's Payment

<sup>14</sup> For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died;

### 4. A Proper View of Our Salvation

<sup>15</sup> and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him thus* no longer.

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

### 5. A Full View of Our Mission

<sup>18</sup> Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

<sup>19</sup> that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

### 6. A Clear Declaration of Our Message

<sup>20</sup> Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

<sup>21</sup> For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

### 7. A Careful Walk of Purposeful Living

<sup>6:1</sup> We then, *as* workers together *with Him* also plead with *you* not to receive the grace of God in vain.

<sup>2</sup> For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation.

<sup>3</sup> We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed.

### 8. A Willing Acceptance of the Cost

<sup>4</sup> But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses,

<sup>5</sup> in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;

### 9. A Proper View of Our Weapons

<sup>6</sup> by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love,

<sup>7</sup> by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

### 10. An Accurate Perspective of the Difficulties

<sup>8</sup> by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and *yet* true;

<sup>9</sup> as unknown, and *yet* well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and *yet* not killed;

<sup>10</sup> as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and *yet* possessing all things.