

Why Are We Here?

9-24-17

2 Corinthians 4:1–6 (NCV)

¹God, with his mercy, **gave us this work to do**, so we don't give up. ² But we have turned away from secret and shameful ways. We use no trickery, and **we do not change the teaching of God. We teach the truth plainly, showing everyone who we are.** Then they can know in their hearts **what kind of people we are in God's sight.** ³ If the Good News that we preach is **hidden**, it is **hidden** only to **those who are lost.** ⁴ The devil who rules this world has blinded the minds of those who do not believe. **They cannot see** the light of the Good News—the Good News about the glory of Christ, **who is exactly like God.** ⁵ We do not preach about ourselves, but **we preach that Jesus Christ is Lord** and that we are your servants for Jesus. ⁶ God once said, "Let the light shine out of the darkness!" **This is the same God** who made his light shine in our hearts by letting us know the glory of God that is in the face of Christ.

I. Why Are We Here?

2 Corinthians 4:1 (NCV)

God gave us this work to do, so we don't give up.

- Call
- Work/Purpose
- Persevere/We don't give up

When we have a call and see our purpose from God, we passionately hold to the very words of God as presented in the Bible, the majestic, God breathed word of God.

Here is the most important word for the church in this dark world today.

2 Corinthians 4:2 (NCV)

(Therefore) We do not change the teaching of God.

- Resurrection; The Bible; Salvation: 1Tim.2:5, For there is one God, and **there is one mediator between God and men**, the man Christ Jesus.

(On the contrary) We teach the truth plainly, showing everyone who we are.

- **We are witnesses to God; that we believe the Word of God!**
- **Everyone knows, we believe everything we say!**

Then they can know in their hearts what kind of people “we are” in God’s sight.

- **People will know that we believe everything we say about God!**

II. Some don’t understand “Why We Are Here” but we know that **there is an enemy distorting the truth leading people astray:**

2 Corinthians 4:3 (NCV)

If the Good News that we preach is hidden, it is hidden only to those who are lost.

The devil is very active blinding people to the truth!

2 Corinthians 4:4 (NCV)

The devil who rules this world has blinded the minds of those who do not believe.

Look at the last sentence of v.4.

They cannot see the light of the Good News—the Good News about the glory of Christ, **who is exactly like God.**

Blind people cannot see! However, PTL because to everyone blind or not, we are a sweet smell of Jesus!
2 Corinthians 2:15–16 (NCV)

¹⁵ **We are the sweet smell of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are being lost.** ¹⁶ To those who are **lost**, we are **the smell of death** that brings death, but to those who are being **saved**, we are **the smell of life** that brings life.

III. Nothing deters us, because us we know, “Why We Are Here!”

2 Corinthians 4:5 (NCV)

We do not preach about ourselves, but **we preach that Jesus Christ is Lord and that we are your servants for Jesus.**

- We do not preach our own wisdom and thoughts!
- We preach Jesus and teach the light Jesus brings!

Remember God called light into darkness at creation, and God called light into our own dark hearts.

2 Corinthians 4:6 (NCV)

God once said, “Let the light shine out of the darkness!” **This is the same God who made his light shine in our hearts** by letting us know the glory of God that is in the face of Christ.

Remember Why We Are Here!



We do not change the teaching of God.

On the contrary, *we teach the truth plainly, showing everyone who we are.* Therefore, foundationally our fundamental position of “Why We Are Here” is:

1 Corinthians 2:2 (ESV)

For **I decided** to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.