

## 2 Corinthians 5:11-17

**11** Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. 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. **14** For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; **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.

**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.

# What are you looking at?

God	Super Apostles/ Unbelievers	Corinthian Church/ Believers
<p>-v.11 “what we are is known to God”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- God sees what is in the heart.</li><li>- What’s in Paul’s heart?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Fear of the Lord (devotion)</li><li>- Sincere Love</li><li>- Humility</li></ul></li></ul>	<p>-v.12 “so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Unbelievers look at outward appearances.</li><li>-How did they see Paul?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Crazy, bald, tent maker, that has very little, and suffers very much.</li></ul></li></ul>	<p>- v.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.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Believers are working on it.</li><li>-We used to look at the outward appearance, but now we seek to know True Identity.</li></ul>

# IDENTITY

## UNBELIEVERS: GOD'S BELOVED ENEMIES

### PERSON: Beloved

- John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."
- Mark 2:17 "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."
  
- Fully loved by God.

### POSITION: Enemy

- Philippians 3:18-19 "For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things."
  
- Totally against His Lordship

## 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

**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.

# IDENTITY

BELIEVERS: GOD'S **SERVANT SONS & DAUGHTERS**

PERSON: Sons & Daughters

POSITION: Servant

- **2 Corinthians 5:18-20** “ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 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. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ...”
- **Romans 8:16-17** “ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.”
- **Matthew 5:14-16** “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

# Are you the right person for the job?

- From the book “Ideal Team Player”
  - **Humble:** They lack excessive ego or concerns about status. They are willing to put the needs of others above their own. Humble people do not think less of themselves, but think of themselves less.
  - **Hungry:** They are always looking for more. More things to do. More to learn. Hungry people desire to see the business grow and expand. They believe in the product or service the company provides.
  - **People Smart:** They have common sense about people. Smart people tend to understand the motivations of others. They can read between the lines and see beyond outward appearances.

# IDENTITY

## Jesus: The Servant Son

- **Humble:** Philippians 2:7-8 “emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”
- **Hungry:** Luke 4:43 “ But he said, “I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.”
- **People Smart:** John 2:24-25 “But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.”