

## LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

## 2 Corinthians Series

These questions are for the **August 12, 2018** sermon, "For Our Sake." Please read the sermon passage (2 Corinthians 5:20-21) together out loud.

### Sermon Outline

1. "Be reconciled to God" (20)
  - a. We have been alienated from God, others, and all creation.
  - b. God brings reconciliation out of alienation through the cross of Jesus Christ.
  - c. The appeal of reconciliation comes from God and through the Christian, based upon the achievement secured by Christ.
  - d. The Christian is not representing himself or herself, but representing God in an alienated world.
  - e. Christians are not the achiever; we are the appealer.
2. "For our sake" (21)
  - a. The work of Christ is purposeful.
  - b. The work of Christ is personal.
3. "He made" (21)
  - a. God is the source of reconciliation.
  - b. God initiates reconciliation.
4. "Him to be sin who knew no sin" (21)
  - a. Christ was not made to be a sinner.
  - b. The sinless one died for the sinful ones.
  - c. Only man should pay the penalty; only God could pay the penalty, therefore we need the God-Man, Jesus Christ to take our penalty.
5. "So that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (21)
  - a. God has a purpose for you and me.
  - b. Justification: Jesus' righteousness is imputed to us and we are declared righteous.
  - c. Sanctification: Jesus' righteousness imparted to us and we start acting righteous.

### Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: How is being an ambassador risky? In what ways does being an ambassador of God with the message of reconciliation give confidence to you as a Christian?
2. Based on #1, above: Where has God placed you to be his representative? What are some ways that you can appeal to others in your life to be reconciled to God?
3. Based on #2, above: How is the phrase "for our sake" personal? How is it communal? What is the significance of this?
4. Based on #3, above: In what ways do you find yourself desiring to be your own rescuer? What are some of your personal "coping mechanisms" that you tend to go to in order to deal with your alienation with God or others (instead of reconciliation through Christ)?
5. In #4 C above, what does it mean that "only God could pay the penalty"?
6. Based on #5 above, what is the difference and significance of Jesus' righteousness being imputed to us and imparted to us? How does sanctification work?