

The Beauty of Reconciliation

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2 Corinthians 5:16-21

January 14, 2024

Introduction: God has a plan. His plan is not random and God's plan is good. God's plan wends its way through all times, all places and all people. Yes, God even has a plan for you! The prophet Jeremiah says it this way: "' For I know the **plans** I have for you," declares the Lord, "**plans** to prosper you and not to harm you, **plans** to give you hope and a future.'" (Jeremiah 29:11). Join us as we look at glimpses God has given us in scripture that will shed light on God's plan for our lives and His plans for the world in which we live.

Prayer: Father, thank you for the vision and the promises in this text. Amen.

Review: What did you do this week to care for your soul?

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Discussion:

1. What is Paul's starting point (v16) as he begins his teaching on reconciliation?
2. Do you think of yourself as a new creation in Christ? Explain.
3. Paul refers to both his "ministry" of reconciliation and his "message" of reconciliation. What is the difference?
4. What does it mean to be an ambassador (v20)?
5. How is it possible for us to be the righteousness of God?

Application: This week, provide messages of reconciliation to those you meet.

Prayer: Father God, help us to be ambassadors of reconciliation that Paul desires.
Amen