

2 Corinthians 2:5-3:6 Ministering the New Covenant Fintry, 4/9/2011, pm

Introduction

- See three things about **how** Paul went about ministering the new covenant

Example (2:5-11)

- Models the reconciliation the gospel brings
 - explain the context
 - as Christ didn't treat people as they deserve, neither did Paul...

Smell (2:12-17)

- Clings to him, pervades him...
 - that reaction we get may not be to us, but to the gospel
 - indeed, that's our prayer... not me, but you in me Lord...
 - but that doesn't mean we will be acceptable to folk...

Letter (3:1-6)

- Not his own commendation, not justifying himself, but the gospel he has and does proclaim **changes lives**
 - what change has and is Christ making in you?
 - are you more at peace? More secure in your own identity? More filled with purpose in Christ?
 - is the ministry that you are exercising showing fruit? Can we look at the Sunday School class, the Girls Brigade girls, the classroom we teach in, the workplace we go to each day, and see the impact of Christ in you on those around you?
 - *(thirteenth apostle?)*
- *Telling stories in Presbytery submission?*

Conclusion

- Can you see our example?
- Do we smell (sweet)?
- Can you read our writing?