

## Introduction

- Continuing to explore what ministry - what serving God - looks like

## Secure about our future (5:1-10)

- Have a heavenly body ahead
  - so secure about risks now
  - longing for that which is better
  - wishing to be transformed from what is into what will be
  - desiring to step into alignment with his way of living ("please the Lord") now, as we will in future (v.9)
- Secure because of the Spirit's work (v.5), which was the aspect we concentrated on when we looked at this passage in morning services in June
- Is our goal to please him?
  - more than just being good, but seeking his glory, sharing his story...

## Secure in our goal (5:11-6:2)

- Challenge for Paul throughout this book is to defend his work, his ministry, without merely looking like he is justifying himself
  - his tack has been to work through what real ministry is about... and then, as he does in v.11, be able to say "look and see that what we are about is what God is about..."
- So Paul talks round what our job/role as servants of God, those who minister/serve him:
  - to persuade others
  - knowing what future awaits - a day of judgement, and the possibility of salvation
  - compelled by the love that has been first shared with us
  - transformed in our view of what life is about, and about who people are
  - a change in perspective that comes from God, from the new life of Christ within us
  - so that we are ambassadors of the good news of reconciliation
- *What is our job? To become the righteousness of God: now righteous (through Christ) so that we can be that clothe that righteousness for others to encounter...*

## Two-fold appeal

- First, to come to faith (5:20)
- Second, to draw others to faith (6:1, 5:11)