

**WE PREACH CHRIST
2 CORINTHIANS 4:1-6**

Introduction

2 Corinthians 4:1-6 provides for us, a picture of Paul's defense of his apostleship and affirmation of his gospel ministry by a detailed explanation of: (1) what his ministry involves (vv. 5-6), (2) how his ministry is carried out (vv. 1-2), and (3) how his ministry is received (vv. 3-4).

I. What His Ministry Involves - 4:5-6

1. What We Preach - 4:5
2. Why We Preach - 4:6

II. How His Ministry Is Carried Out - 4:1-2

1. What We've Received - 4:1a
2. What We've Determined - 4:1b
3. What We've Renounced - 4:2a
4. What We're Committed To - 4:2b

III. How His Ministry Is Received - 4:3-4

1. It is veiled to those who are perishing – 4:3
2. The god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving – 4:4a
3. They might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. – 4:4b

Conclusion

Discussion Questions

1. What are Paul's attitudes and methods that he uses in his ministry (verses 1, 2)? What does he reject as unworthy and what does he do?
2. Why might Paul be tempted to be discouraged? How may the Corinthians themselves have contributed to this? What difference can it make in your attitude if you remember for whom and by whose mercy you do your ministry? See also Ephesians 6:5-8.
3. It is clear from verses 3, 4 that not everyone believed who heard Paul (or even Jesus) preach. What do the unbelievers fail to see and why? If we know people who seem to be in this category, what must we continue to preach and to do (verse 5)?
4. If from all the Bible you had only 2 Corinthians 4:4-6, what would you know about Jesus?
5. What point does Paul make by quoting in verse 6 from the Genesis (1:3) account of creation?