

Overflow

June 9-10, 2018

INTRODUCTION: The Christian Brand

2 Corinthians 4:15 (All verses from the New International Version 1984)

All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

Overflow

1. MESSAGE: Jesus Christ is Lord.

- 2 Corinthians 4:13a *It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken..."*
- 2 Corinthians 4:13b-14 ^{13b} *...With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴ because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence.*

2. MISSION: To Demonstrate God's Glory to All the World

- 2 Corinthians 4:15 *All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.*

- Psalm 130:7-8 ⁷ *O Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.* ⁸ *He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.*

3. METHOD: To Serve Others

- 2 Corinthians 4:16-17 ¹⁶ *Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.* ¹⁷ *For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.*

- 2 Corinthians 4:18-5:1 ^{4:18} *So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.* ^{5:1} *Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.*

CONCLUSION: How the Church Should Appear to Others

G.P.S. Grow. Pray. Study.

Things I'd like to remember from this week's message:

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Day 1: Read *2 Corinthians 4:13a*. Think of five beliefs you have that help clarify your faith in Jesus. How do such beliefs give you assurance in turbulent times?

- 1,
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Day 2: Read *2 Corinthians 4:13b-14*. One reason we're sometimes reluctant to witness is that we don't feel completely confident in our knowledge of the basics of our beliefs. Look at your life with God and what it was or what it might have been without Him. Share your story of the difference Jesus has made in your life and can make in someone else's life too. If you don't have anyone to share your story with, pray for God to provide the opportunity to tell someone about Jesus!

Day 3: Read *2 Corinthians 4:15*. When have you witnessed something done that has led you to thank God and tell others about the overflow of His goodness? When have you done something that has led others to thank God and tell of His name?

Day 4: Read *Psalm 130:7-8*. Full Redemption – Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross that paid for your life, for my life, for all lives, is the greatest act of suffering that leads us to give God glory. And yet, the end of the story is not the cross, but the empty tomb. What does the cross of Jesus mean to you? Why is it important to remember the empty tomb as well?

Day 5: Read *2 Corinthians 4:16-17*. Everything we deal with day in and day out tempts us to focus on the temporary: money problems, health problems, relationship problems, and so on. But if we can look beyond these things, and focus instead on the presence of God, we can experience the renovating work of His Spirit. What causes you to lose heart? What helps keep your heart grounded in God during tough times? How can you share such solid hope with others?

Day 6: Read *2 Corinthians 4:18-5:1*. Never underestimate the power of sharing Jesus’ love in your works and words with others. How has Jesus’ love been shared with you by somebody’s works or words? Whom might Jesus be calling you to share His with love through your works and words?

Going Deeper:

Book: *UnChristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity...and Why It Matters* by David Kinnaman and Gabe Lyons.

Next Week: Deuteronomy 6:6-7 – **Make a Memory**