

I. Read II Corinthians 4:5-7

- A. In verses 5-7, the Apostle Paul explains the proper perspective the Corinthian believers ought to have toward those who minister in Christ's name. In verse 5, he makes it clear that the subject of his preaching is not himself, but rather:

Why would he feel it was necessary to identify the subject of his preaching?

- B. In the last part of verse 5, Paul explains why he submits himself to the believers and church in Corinth. What reason does he give?

Paul's motivation for his ministry is important to reiterate. Why?

- C. Read John 1:6-9 and compare the point John makes with the point Paul makes in II Corinthians 4:6.

What does the phrase – "The whole *world* lives and moves in darkness" mean?

To whom does John 1:9 refer?

- D. In verse 7, we read that the treasure which we know as Christ and His gospel is possessed by “earthen vessels.” What does this mean?
- E. Read Romans 7:14-25 and discuss how it *explains* the point Paul makes in II Corinthians 4:7 regarding “earthen vessels.”
- F. Discuss how the following statement either does or doesn’t convey the main point of II Corinthians 4:7. “I’m just a sinner saved by grace.”

“Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.”

...and by Isaac Watts in “Alas! And Did My Saviour Bleed”—

“Alas! And did my Saviour bleed, and did my sovereign die? Would He devote that sacred Head, for such a *worm* as I!”