

## Know Your Story 2 Corinthians 3:1-6 p. 965 July 16, 2017 Chris Noble

## Introduction

In this passage, each of us are encouraged to see our whole life as a letter from Christ to be read by all.

The Text: 2 Corinthians 3:1-6		
1)	In the midst of false teachers, Paul battles attacks on his credibility, and thus any who listen to him (vv. 1-3).	
2)	The sufficiency required to be ministers of the new covenant comes from God, and not from ourselves (vv. 4-6).	
Re	sponse	

- Examine your heart and your life:
  - o What do others come to know about Christ in "reading" your life?
- Consider the value of your testimony, your witness statement
  - o to yourself
  - o to the body of believers
  - o to the great number of those who have yet to believe
- Write your story, your testimony of God's works of grace in your life.
  - o pray/meditate
  - o write it
  - o infuse
  - o review it and renew it

## **Sermon Questions for 2 Corinthians 3:1-6**

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1)	Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
2)	Read chapter 2, verse 17. Paul defends his credibility by stating that he is not a peddler of God's word, as many are. Chapter 3 begins with asking about letters of commendation and approval. How is this similar to book "peddling" today, and why is this context significant to the rest of the text in 3:1-6?
3)	In verse 3, what does Paul's description of us as a letter from Christ reveal to us about God's level of permanence in our lives?
4)	Consider YOUR response to the gospel as a Paul dida letter from Christ for all to read what can the world around you come to know about CHRIST through your life?  a. at work?  b. at home?  c. at church?  d. in the long, slow line at the grocery store?  e. behind a frustratingly slow vehicle?
5)	Read verses 4-6, then 12:9-10. Discuss the significance of <u>God</u> making us sufficient in promoting the Gospel. What struggles come along with accepting this? What advantage is gained with accepting <i>His</i> sufficiency?
6)	When you step out in faith to give testimony of God's grace and work in your life, what would be important to consider?
7)	Rate how interesting others might find your testimony and briefly discuss that with at least one other believer.
8)	THIS WEEK: If you have not yet taken time to write out your testimony to at least share in the safety of other believers, do that this week. Pray about it. Start with an outline, fill in the details, keep the long version, and make a 3-5 minute version as well. As you reflect and write, be encouraged in gratitude towards our Savior, be encouraged to share even the little chapters of your life, be encouraged to reflect on scriptures that reflect His work in your life.

Further study this week: 2 Corinthians (the greater context); Hebrews 8-10 (regarding the new covenant)