



Real Life Ministry ~ 2 Corinthians 3:1-6
February 22, 2026

next week: 2 Corinthians 3:7-18

Questions for the Community

What does the Bible say? (goal: go slow, notice the text, let God speak for Himself in the words of His book)

1. Read the passage out loud together. What stands out to you? Why is a “letter of recommendation” being talked discussed?
2. What contrast does Paul make between writing with ink on stone and writing by the Spirit on hearts? How do Ezekiel 11:19–20 and Jeremiah 31:33–34 help explain what Paul is talking about?
3. According to verses 4–5, where does Paul say his confidence and sufficiency come from? What role has God given believers in verse 6?
4. What evidence of real ministry does Paul point the Corinthians to instead of credentials or status?

What does it mean? (goal: get to the heart of the text by understanding what Paul is teaching then and how it relates to now)

5. What does it mean that Christians are “living letters” read by others?
6. How can ministry continue outwardly while spiritually drifting inwardly?
7. Why is routine not the enemy, but lack of renewal is?
8. What does it practically mean that our sufficiency comes from God and not ourselves?
9. How can familiarity with God’s work cause people to miss the miracle?
10. What does the “new covenant ministry of the Spirit” produce that the old way never could?

What do I do? (goal: move from understanding to faithful, obedient lived response; this is sometimes plain and sometimes requires listening in prayer)

11. Start again (Renewal)
 - What does “starting again” with God look like for you? Is there a routine in your spiritual life that has become mechanical instead of relational?
 - How can you intentionally depend on the Spirit instead of just going through motions?
12. Read the room (Living Letters)
 - Who reads the “letter of your life” most closely right now and what is it saying? How do you stay in tune with what Jesus is writing in your story?
 - Who would *you* point to as a letter of recommendation?
13. Keep the wonder
 - What practice could help you regularly notice God’s work (journaling, sharing at dinner, prayer, group check-ins)?
 - Ask God to renew a right spirit in you, one that is receptive to all He is.