



Crossroads Sermon Study
TBH: Cleaning Up the Mess
2 Corinthians 5:14-17
May 7, 2023

Lean In: Do you like to clean? What is your most satisfying house chore? Least satisfying?

Look In: Read **2 Corinthians 5:14-17** aloud together and write verse 17 in your journal.

Look Back: What stood out to you most about this week's teaching? What questions do you have? What encouraged you? What challenged you? What comforted you?

Take it Deeper:

1. *The life of a Christ follower is not primarily about avoiding sin but embracing grace.* What does it look like to embrace grace in your day-to-day life?
2. What is the difference between moral reformation and spiritual transformation? How have you seen both ways of operating play out in your own life?
3. If someone asked you, "Why do you do it? Why do you serve? Why do you give? Why do you endure pain and trials?" Which response is most honest for you right now:
 - a. "I have to because I have received the love of Christ for myself."
 - b. "I have to because if I don't then I'm afraid that _____."
 - c. "I have to because if I don't then people will _____."
4. Where have fear and pride been your motivating force to live for Christ? What other things have compelled you to do good?
5. Read Revelation 4:11. What does this Scripture reveal about our purpose in life? How does 2 Corinthians 5:15 further emphasize why we live differently from "the world"?
6. According to verse 16, why do we no longer regard others from a worldly point of view/human perspective? (see also 2 Corinthians 4:18, 5:1, 5:7, 5:12 and John 16:7)
7. In verse 17 Paul says that we are new creations, *not* perfect. What is the difference?
8. If you were in a conversation with God this week, how would you finish this sentence about your current life's circumstance? "Tbh _____." How do you imagine God might answer your honest confession based on today's message?

Look Up: *Father, I confess that I keep trying to clean up my own mess in my own way, in my own time. Forgive me for thinking that I can make myself worthy apart from You. Help me to embrace your grace and embrace your love anew. I want everything I do to be an overflow from the love I have received from you. May your love (and your love alone!) be the compelling force in my life.*