



“Ministry Motivation”

Why do we do it?
II Corinthians 2:12-17

We are motivated by:

I. Troubles – “I found not Titus” (vs. 12-13)

It’s wrestling with the

- A. **Plans** – “when I came to Troas to preach Christ’s gospel”
- B. **Potential** – “a door was opened unto me of the Lord”
- C. **Pain** – “I had no rest in my spirit”

II. Triumphs - “always causes us to triumph in Christ” (vs. 14-16)

It’s about His:

- A. **Praise** – “Now thanks be unto God which always causes us”
- B. **Pleasure** – “makes manifest the savor of His knowledge”
- C. **Provision** – “who is sufficient for these things”

III. Truth – “speak we in Christ” (v. 17)

It’s about the:

- A. **Money** - “not as many which corrupt the Word of God”
- B. **Motivation** – “but as of sincerity”
- C. **Monitor** – “but as of God, in the sight of God”

Sentence Sermon

*“If a commission by an earthly king is considered an honor,
how can a commission by a Heavenly King be considered a sacrifice?”*

– David Livingstone

Additional Verses

- II Corinthians 7:4-6
- Philippians 4:2-3
- Romans 8:31, 37
- Colossians 1:24; 2:15
- II Corinthians 11:7-12
- Romans 5:10
- Genesis 8:21
- Exodus 29:18
- Acts 17:32; Acts 20:5-11
- I Peter 5:2
- II Corinthians 3:5
- Colossians 4:3

Questions to Ponder

1. What are the key words or phrases in this passage?
2. Who are the central characters of the passage?
3. Why does Paul call it “Christ’s gospel?” How would you explain it?
4. How does God open a door for ministry? Give an example.
5. Was Paul wrong to pass up an open door for ministry?
6. What are some good reasons to leave a good ministry?
7. How should God feel about the way we go about ministering?
8. What does it mean that we are the savor of death unto death?
9. What are some important qualities in serving God according to verse 17?
10. How do you stay motivated to be involved in ministry for God?
11. What is the hardest thing to remember when ministry gets hard?