



**New**  
September 18, 2022  
*2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

### Connect:

- Describe something new that you have started in the last month. New hobby? New study? New focus? New habit?
- Paul says that “*anything that is in Christ*” is new and that the “*old has passed away.*” Have you experienced this in your faith journey? Discuss.

### Engage

- Read *2 Corinthians 5:16-21*. Listen carefully to the words and phrases. What word or phrase sticks out most prominently? Why?
- Michael Gungor wrote, “*Burnout is what happens when you try to avoid being human for too long.*” How do you find ways of “*being new*” before being forced into newness due to burnout?
- Paul says that Jesus has given us the “*ministry of reconciliation.*” What does this ministry look like in your daily life?
- *2 Corinthians 6:12 (MSG)* says, “*Your lives aren’t small but you’re living them in a small way.*” Can you share an example of this from your own life? How might you live in a *big way*?
- When is the last time you would say your faith grew? How did it grow? Is there anything you can do to encourage more growth? Explain.

### Next Steps:

- Start something new this week. Perhaps a study, a prayer practice, a walking habit, a conversation, etc.
- Be about the ministry of reconciliation. Be an agent for peace where there is unrest in a current life situation. Forgive and be forgiven. Be a part of the healing, not the ongoing hurt.

### Pray:

- Share joys and concerns about your lives with your group. Lift those in prayer.
- Pray for new opportunities that broaden your sense of faith.
- “*Lord, make me new as only you can. Amen.*”