

Scripture and Background Information for October 21-27

After Sunday, October 21, we would like each group to discuss **2 Corinthians 5:16-21**. To prepare for that discussion, group members should use the **Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns, and if possible, watch **Episode 7**. (All of the episodes are here: bit.ly/mckinneyflow.)

Background Information for 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Second Corinthians was written by the apostle Paul, who had one of the most powerful conversion stories in the Bible. Paul had been a persecutor of Christians, but through a powerful experience with Christ in Acts 9, he came to believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ. He then served as a missionary, church planter, and writer of the majority of the New Testament. He was reconciled to God, and dedicated his life to sharing the message of how others could be reconciled to God.

In 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Paul is continuing an argument that he started from the beginning of the book. Faced with disunity at the church in Corinth, Paul encourages the Corinthians to view each other through Christ. In addressing the Corinthians, he also reminds us of our own reconciliation (restoration) to God, and our responsibility in sharing our story and witness with others. God has chosen Christ to bring us into right relationship with Him, and God has chosen us as the ones who will share that message with others. Sharing this message of life, hope, and reconciliation with the world is the purpose of the Church.

NOTES:

-For your group meeting the week of **October 28-November 3**, we recommend that your group has a party to celebrate what God has been doing in your group.

-Beginning on **November 4**, we will begin a **3-week series on the book of Titus**.

For group discussion the week of...

November 4-10 **Titus 2:11-14**

November 11-17 **Titus 2:7-8**

November 18-24 **Titus 3:3-8**

Background Information is posted weekly at <http://www.mckinneychurch.com/leaders>.