

DIVINE ENCOUNTER:

WHAT PROMPTINGS DID I HEAR OR SENSE FROM GOD IN THIS PASSAGE? WHAT OTHER RESOURCES HAVE ENRICHED MY GROWTH AS A JESUS FOLLOWER THIS WEEK?

D R I V E

RESPOND:

HOW AM I RESPONDING TO THE PROMPTINGS FROM GOD?

D R I V E

IMITATE:

WHAT IS GOD TRYING TO CHANGE IN MY LIFE TO MAKE ME MORE LIKE CHRIST? HOW AM I PARTNERING WITH GOD IN THAT CHANGE?

D R I V E

VENTURE:

WHERE IS GOD MOVING ME BEYOND MY COMFORT ZONE THIS WEEK?

D R I V E

ENGAGE:

WHO HAVE I BLESSED THIS WEEK THROUGH MY WORDS OR ACTIONS? WHAT LEARNING, ENCOURAGEMENT, OR CHALLENGES WERE RAISE BY IT?

D R I V E

CONSCIOUS CONTACT

WEEK 11



2 CORINTHIANS

5:6 - 19

Mercy Street

WWW.MERCYSTREET.ORG

2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-19

6-8 That's why we live with such good cheer. You won't see us drooping our heads or dragging our feet! Cramped conditions here don't get us down. They only remind us of the spacious living conditions ahead. It's what we trust in but don't yet see that keeps us going. Do you suppose a few ruts in the road or rocks in the path are going to stop us? When the time comes, we'll be plenty ready to exchange exile for homecoming. 9-10 But neither exile nor homecoming is the main thing. Cheerfully pleasing God is the main thing, and that's what we aim to do, regardless of our conditions. Sooner or later we'll all have to face God, regardless of our conditions. We will appear before Christ and take what's coming to us as a result of our actions, either good or bad. 11-14 That keeps us vigilant, you can be sure. It's no light thing to know that we'll all one day stand in that place of Judgment. That's why we work urgently with everyone we meet to get them ready to face God. God alone knows how well we do this, but I hope you realize how much and deeply we care. We're not saying this to make ourselves look good to you. We just thought it would make you feel good, proud even, that we're on your side and not just nice to your face as so many people are. If I acted crazy, I did it for God; if I acted overly serious, I did it for you. Christ's love has moved me to such extremes. His love has the first and last word in everything we do.

14-15 Our firm decision is to work from this focused center: One man died for everyone. That puts everyone in the same boat. He included everyone in his death so that everyone could also be included in his life, a resurrection life, a far better life than people ever lived on their own.

16-20 Because of this decision we don't evaluate people by what they have or how they look. We looked at the Messiah that way once and got it all wrong, as you know. We certainly don't look at him that way anymore. Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life burgeons! Look at it! All this comes from the God who settled the relationship between us and him, and then called us to settle our relationships with each other. God put the world square with himself through the Messiah, giving the world a fresh start by offering forgiveness of sins. God has given us the task of telling everyone what he is doing. We're Christ's representatives. God uses us to persuade men and women to drop their differences and enter into God's work of making things right between them. We're speaking for Christ himself now: Become friends with God; he's already a friend with you.

REFLECT:

ROAD CREW PRACTICES:

- ENGAGE SCRIPTURE
- PRAY
- FOLLOW JESUS

- GIVE OF YOURSELF
- DO IT TOGETHER
- MAKE PEACE

- JOIN WITH GOD
- GO
- TAKE IT TO THE STREETS