

## Faithful Witness Becoming a Reconciling Church

## Read/Reflect

1.	Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21.	What is a word	or phrase t	that y	ou would	d highlig	th from th	nis passage?	Wh	y?
----	-----------------------------	----------------	-------------	--------	----------	-----------	------------	--------------	----	----

2.	Paul uses plenty of images in this passage to talk about how to think of yourself and others. How would you describe what each of these images are?							
	"from a worldly point	of view" (vs.16)		reconciled to God (vs.18)				
	"in Christ" (vs.17)			"Christ's ambassadors" (vs.20)				
	$\Box$ "a new creation" (vs.	17)		"the righteousness of God" (vs.21)				

## **Explore**

- 3. How do you see yourself in the context of Paul's descriptions (mentioned in question 2)?
- 4. If Paul is trying portray what a community of Christ looks like in the world, how does New Life church measure up to Paul's description here? Where might you identify opportunities for reconciliation?
- 5. In your experience of relationships, what's it like to be alienated? To be reconciled? To be an advocate for reconciliation (see Paul's motivation in 2 Cor.5:14,15).
- 6. From Paul's instruction and from your own experience, what is required for reconciliation to occur (practical steps, attitude etc.)

## Pray

- Pray for relationships (maybe with a friend, relative, or co-worker) that need to be restored in your own life.
- Sometimes relationships break to the point that reconciliation can't be complete. Pray for grace and mercy to endure through such painful circumstances.