

Second Corinthians

Instructions to the Church

***2 Corinthians 1:3 (NIV)* Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort**



2 Corinthians 4:1 (NIV) Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry

2 Corinthians 3:16-18 (NIV) ¹⁶ But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

¹⁸ And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



2 Corinthians 4:1 (NIV) Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry

“Mercy” - *It describes the general sense of one who expresses compassion to someone in need.*

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



2 Corinthians 4:1 (NIV) Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry

2 Corinthians 5:18 (NIV) All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



2 Corinthians 4:1 (NIV) Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry

Ministry ([1248](#))([diakonia](#)) means the rendering or assistance or help by performing certain duties, often of a humble or menial nature, including such mundane activities as waiting on tables or caring for household needs—activities without apparent dignity.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

A. It REFUSES to give up v.1

2 Corinthians 4:1 (NIV) ... we do not lose heart.

Galatians 6:9 (NIV) Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

A. It REFUSES to give up v.1

2 Corinthians 4:1 (NIV) ... we do not lose heart.

1 Corinthians 15:56-58 (NIV) ⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸ Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

A. It REFUSES to give up v.1

2 Corinthians 4:1 (NIV) ... we do not lose heart.

1. There is the consciousness of a great task.

Galatians 6:9 (NIV) Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

A. It REFUSES to give up v.1

2 Corinthians 4:1 (NIV) ... we do not lose heart.

1. There is the consciousness of a great task.

“A great task brings its own strength with it.”

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

A. It REFUSES to give up v.1

2 Corinthians 4:1 (NIV) ... we do not lose heart.

2. There is the memory of mercy received.

Philippians 3:12 (NIV) Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

A. It REFUSES to give up v.1

2 Corinthians 4:1 (NIV) ... we do not lose heart.

2. There is the memory of mercy received.

Keep me faithful, keep me grateful,

This my earnest plea each day!

Keep me serving, keep me telling

Of His love while yet I may!

—Thiesen

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

B. It RENOUNCES all deceitful practices v.2

2 Corinthians 4:2 (NIV) Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

1. Corruption

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

B. It RENOUNCES all deceitful practices v.2

2 Corinthians 4:2 (NIV) Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

2. Craftiness

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

B. It RENOUNCES all deceitful practices v.2

2 Corinthians 4:2 (NIV) Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

3. Confusion

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

C. It RECOGNIZES the work of the enemy vs.3-4

1. The Plan he uses

2 Corinthians 4:7 (NIV) But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

C. It RECOGNIZES the work of the enemy vs.3-4

1. The Plan he uses

2 Corinthians 4:10-11 (NIV) ¹⁰ We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

¹¹ For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

C. It RECOGNIZES the work of the enemy vs.3-4

2. The Purpose he has

“so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

D. It REALIZES the message we preach is Jesus Christ, not ourselves vs.5-6

2 Corinthians 4:5-6 (NIV) ⁵ For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

D. It REALIZES the message we preach is Jesus Christ, not ourselves vs.5-6

Mark 12:41-44 (NIV) ⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

D. It REALIZES the message we preach is Jesus Christ, not ourselves vs.5-6

⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others.

⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything--all she had to live on."

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

D. It REALIZES the message we preach is Jesus Christ, not ourselves vs.5-6

“hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

D. It REALIZES the message we preach is Jesus Christ, not ourselves vs.5-6

¹⁰carrying around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹ For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

D. It REALIZES the message we preach is Jesus Christ, not ourselves vs.5-6

¹² So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

D. It REALIZES the message we preach is Jesus Christ, not ourselves vs.5-6

“for the Dodgers to win they need to play for the name on the front of their jersey instead of the name on the back” -Tommy Lasorda

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



I. THE CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY vs.1-7

D. It REALIZES the message we preach is Jesus Christ, not ourselves vs.5-6

¹⁶Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Instructions to the Church

Second Corinthians



Second Corinthians

Instructions to the Church

***2 Corinthians 1:3 (NIV)* Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,**

