

**PERSONAL
APPLICATION**

1. What did you learn from this lesson and how will you put it into practice?

2. Are you properly representing Christ as His ambassador? What can you do to better represent Christ?

3. Name five people in your sphere of relationships that have yet to experience new life in Christ. Commit to praying for them, believing for an opportunity to minister the message of reconciliation.

PRAYER

On the space provided below, record prayer requests and answers to prayer.



Bridge the Gap

WARM-UP

1. On your regular to-do list, what is one task that you find hard to finish or easy to put off? Why?

2. Give one thing that you wish to do or accomplish in your lifetime and explain why you chose it.



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And [Jesus] said to them, “Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father’s business?”

Luke 2:49 (NKJV)

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation...

2 Corinthians 5:18

Many people tend to view God as resting, basing their image on what God did on the seventh day of creation. However, the rest of the Bible clearly indicate that God is still at work today bringing about His purposes on earth. Jesus Christ came to play an integral part in His Father’s business. What exactly is that business?

I. God is in the business of transforming lives.

¹⁷*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!*

¹⁸*All this is from God ...*

2 Corinthians 5:17,18

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10

The ultimate result of the gospel is transformation. Just as a caterpillar changes into a butterfly, so in Christ we are completely made new. Our nature, our hearts, our destinies—all are supernaturally changed. This miracle is attributed solely to God, who desires for each of us to experience the fullness of life. What are some of the things that changed in your life since you received Christ?

2. God is in the business of reconciling the world to Himself.

¹⁸*All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:*

¹⁹*that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them.*

2 Corinthians 5:18,19

For if, when we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

Romans 5:10

Our sins made us God’s enemies. And yet, God initiated the reconciliation process in Christ, choosing to overlook our offenses for the sake of our salvation. What does “reconciliation” mean?

3. We are in the business of representing God to those around us.

²⁰*We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.*

2 Corinthians 5:20

All believers have been entrusted with God’s message of reconciliation. Our lives are powerful testimonies to the truth of God’s transforming power. What is an ambassador?
