

Good News for the Not-So-Good: Christ's Love Compels Us

Wylie Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – February 8, 2026

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. 16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. 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, 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. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 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. 21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

1. CHRIST'S LOVE IS OUR SOURCE

2 Corinthians 5:14

Christ's love compels us...

1 John 4:19

We love because he first loved us.

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. CHRIST'S LOVE IS OUR POWER

2 Corinthians 5:14

Christ's love compels us...

Acts 1:8

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

3. CHRIST'S LOVE IS OUR PURPOSE

2 Corinthians 5:15, 19-20

[Christ] died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. 16-18... 19... [Christ] has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.

Isaiah 53:5

... he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me... (He) loved me and gave himself for me.

CONCLUSION

The question is NOT, "Do you know about Christ's love?"

The question IS, "Has it taken hold of you?"