

Take 5!

5 Verses, 5 Questions, 5 Minutes!

I am Because He Is!



Take a moment to confess to God the sin that so easily besets us and ask Him to fill you afresh with His Holy Spirit. Now please read 2 Corinthians 3:2-6.

What word is used to describe Christians in verses 2 and 3?

Christians are described as being *epistles*; in particular, "epistles of Christ." Back in the old days, before texting and facebook, letters were written to communicate information, conduct business and to maintain relationships. As *epistles* of Christ, we are to communicate to the world the message of Christ, which is summed up in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. This message of love cannot be written on tablets of stone, but on tablets of the heart.

If you are a born again believer in Christ, you have been called to take this message to the world.

According to verse 5, why are we qualified to take the Gospel to the world?

Not that we are sufficient in and of ourselves, but that He is sufficient! The word *sufficient* in the Greek is *hikanos* which means "many, enough, sufficient in ability, fit, meet." *Hikanos* is derived from another Greek word, *hiko* which means "to arrive." To coin a popular phrase, we

needn't think that God has called us to spread His Gospel because we have "arrived"; we are sufficient because He is sufficient!

By what title are we called in verse 6?

We are "ministers of the new covenant." In the Old Testament, priests were the ministers of the covenant and in the New Testament; believers are the ministers of the new covenant.

What do you think of when you hear the word *ministers*?

To me, *ministers* brings to mind one who "applies something or gives something to another." In the original language *ministers* actually means "one who executes the commands of another, the servant of a king." Hmm...the servant of a king... the servant of the King of Kings!

Please read verse 6 again. According to the end of this verse, the final result of being the "minister of the new covenant" is eternal life for those who were lost!

How has God specifically equipped you to be a minister of the new covenant and how are you using your gifts to bring others to Christ?

Please remember, that as an epistle of Christ, our lives are a "letter that other people will read. What will people find out about Jesus when they read your epistle? Also, please pray and ask God to show you how you can become a "minister of the New Covenant"!

