

The Ministry: Its Demands

2 Corinthians 04:01-06

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 <i>The ministry demands constancy, demands that we not lose heart</i></p> | <p>1 Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.</p> |
| <p>2 <i>The ministry demands honesty and integrity in life and ministry</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. To renounce dishonestyb. Not to walk deceptivelyc. Not to tamper with God's Wordd. To proclaim the truth openly and in purity | <p>2 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.</p> |
| <p>3 <i>The ministry demands not hiding the gospel</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Hid to the lostb. Hid because Satan has blinded the minds of unbelievers | <p>3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.</p> |
| <p>4 <i>The ministry demands servitude, demands that we preach Christ and serve man, not self</i></p> | <p>4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.</p> |
| <p>5 <i>The ministry demands personal conversion, demands the very presence of God Himself shining in a person's heart</i></p> | <p>5 For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.</p> |
| | <p>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.</p> |