



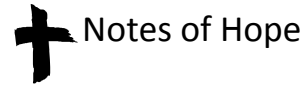
II Corinthians 2:16 b - 3:6

And who is equal to such a task? ¹⁷Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, like men sent from God.

¹Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, like some people, letters of recommendation to you or from you?

²You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everybody. ³You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. ⁴Such confidence as this is ours through Christ before God.

⁵Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. ⁶He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant—not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.



May 16, 2010
II Corinthians 2:16b - 3:6

Competent

Two basic responses to a huge task:

1. Forget it! Process: self-condemnation

2. “Gitter done” Process: self-commendation

Our task: Expand God’s Kingdom “Who is equal to such a task?”

Wrong Answer #1 “I can do it” - “Peddlers of the Word of God” (2:17)

Motivation: Personal profit

Wrong Answer #2 “I could never do it” (even with God’s help)

Right Answer: God has made us competent Kingdom builders.

Our motivation: Sent by God 2:17

Our primary audience: God 2:17 & 3:4

Our confidence: Through Christ 3:4

Our competency: From God 3:5

Our guidelines: A New Covenant 3:6

Not lists of rules

But the spirit that gives life

Our “Certificate of Authenticity” : Changed lives 3:2