2 Corinthians 6:1

Intro: The text for our study is 2 Corinthians 6:1 “1 We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.” In 2 Corinthians 5, the previous chapter, Paul speaks about God reconciling the world to Himself, and made Christ to be sin that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

I. WORKERS.

A. We have lost this part of the religious aspect of the church. Today we thing of the church as a social group.

B. We are to be in the ministry of reconciliation; 2 Cor. 5:18 “18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;”

C. The work of the church is that of saving souls. This is done in three ways.
   1. Preaching to the lost.
      a. Mat. 28:18-20 “18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”
      b. Mark 16:15-16 “15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
      c. Luke 24:46-47 “46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: 47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”
      d. 1 Cor. 1:21 “21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”
      e. 2 Tim. 2:2 “2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”
   2. Edify the saved.
      a. Tit. 2:1-6 “1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: 2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. 3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things: 4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed. 6 Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.”
      b. Eph. 4:12-16 “12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.”
      c. Heb. 3:13 “13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.”
      d. Rom. 15:2 “2 Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.” Notice “every one.”
3. Benevolence
   a. Eph. 4:28 \(^{28}\) Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”
   b. Gal. 6:10 \(^{10}\) As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.”
   c. We do this to teach them and save them.

II. Together.
   A. We are the body of Christ.
      1. Eph. 1:22-23 \(^{22}\) And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, \(^{23}\) Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.”
      2. 1 Cor. 12:13-27
   B. We are one in Christ.
      1. Eph. 4:4-6 \(^{4}\) There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; \(^{5}\) One Lord, one faith, one baptism, \(^{6}\) One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”
      2. John 17:20-23 \(^{20}\) Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; \(^{21}\) That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. \(^{22}\) And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: \(^{23}\) I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.”
   C. Love one another.
      1. John 13:34-35 \(^{34}\) A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. \(^{35}\) By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”
      2. John 15:12, 17 \(^{12}\) This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you…. \(^{17}\) These things I command you, that ye love one another.”

III. Receive The Grace Of God.
   A. The grace that brings salvation.
      2. It is an acceptance of God’s Word.
         a. Belief in Jesus.
         b. Repentance from sins.
         c. Baptism for remission of sins.
   B. Now is the time of salvation; 2 Cor. 6:2 \(^{2}\) (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)”

Conclusion: Let us all be working together. We cannot unless you have received the grace of God.