

2 CORINTHIANS 4:1-6

Pastor Matt Ross ■ Grace Bible Church ■ April 19, 2026

“Authentic gospel ministers spotlight not themselves but Christ. The only putting forward of themselves is the putting forward of themselves as servants.”

Dane C. Ortlund, ESV Expository Commentary: 2 Corinthians

Main Idea: Because we have received mercy through Jesus Christ, we should continue as humble servants, to proclaim the gospel in this dark world.

1. The _____ of Ministry:
_____ (v. 1)

Application: Persevere in ministry because you have received mercy through Christ.

2. The _____ of Ministry:
_____ (v.2)

Application: Refuse to soft-pedal Scripture but, with integrity, make it known.

3. The _____ of Ministry:
_____ (v. 3-4)

Application: Confess that you are powerless to open people's eyes to Christ.

4. The _____ of Ministry: _____ (v. 5-6)

Application: Proclaim Jesus Christ so that the light of the gospel would be seen.

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

¹ Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. ² But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. ³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are for further study and application of today's text of Scripture. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. One of the best ways to grow as a disciple is by discussing these types of questions in a small group. Find a small group here: gracebiblecw.com/lifegroup or ask someone next to you if you can join their group!

- 1) In what ways are you tempted to lose heart when it comes to living out your faith? How can you remember God's mercy toward you daily?

- 2) What are ways as a church that we can tamper with God's Word and succumb to underhanded ways?

- 3) Do you tend to see unbelieving people as "those who are perishing" who are "blinded"? How does knowing you are powerless to change them actually free you to pray and proclaim the gospel to them confident in God?

- 4) What are ways you can proclaim self instead of Christ in a testimony? How can the "face of Jesus Christ" be seen through our proclamation?