

*How PAUL
was
Successful in
Evangelism!*

2 Corinthians 6:4-10

INTRODUCTION...

1. Of the most successful workers in the Kingdom of God, the Apostle Paul is at the forefront!
2. Many NT churches were started with the help of Paul:
 - a. Asia Minor - Derbe, Lystra, Galatia, Troas, Ephesus
 - b. Greece & Macedonia - Philippi, Thessalonica, Corinth

INTRODUCTION...

1. Of the most successful workers in the Kingdom of God, the Apostle Paul is at the forefront!
2. Many NT churches were started with the help of Paul:
 - a. Asia Minor - Derbe, Lystra, Galatia, Troas, Ephesus
 - b. Greece & Macedonia - Philippi, Thessalonica, Corinth
3. The work Paul did was incredible...and we want to do the same!
4. What do we need to do to Grow the Kingdom of God?

INTRODUCTION...

5. In 2 Corinthians 6:4-10, Paul gives us some insight into what it takes to be Successful in Evangelism!
6. We want to examine this passage to determine what we must do in order to be successful in our Lord's Work!
 - a. Look at the Context & Text!
 - b. Make some initial observations!
 - c. Examine some of the requirements!

I. Our Text: 2 Corinthians 6:4-10

A. The Context...

a. Second letter to Corinth by Paul from Macedonia

- 1-7 - Encourage & strengthen supporters, Paul's general defense!
- 8-9 – Collection for poor saints in Jerusalem
- 10-13 – Specific defense to Paul's accusers!

b. We are in the last part of the 1st section

c. Paul is describing his work

- 5:18 – “ministry of reconciliation.”
- 5:20 – “ambassadors for Christ”
- Reminding them of what is involved in REAL spiritual work, which would stand in clear & sharp contrast to his accusers.

B. Our Text...

2 Corinthians 6:4-10

- ⁴ But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses,
- ⁵ in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;
- ⁶ by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love,
- ⁷ by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,
- ⁸ by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true;
- ⁹ as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed;
- ¹⁰ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

I. Our Text: 2 Corinthians 6:4-10

C. This Passage has 3 Parts

- Vs. 4-5.... “In”
- Vs. 6-7.... “By”
- Vs. 8-10... “As”

2 Corinthians 6:4-10

- ⁴ But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses,
- ⁵ in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;
- ⁶ by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love,
- ⁷ by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,
- ⁸ by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true;
- ⁹ as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed;
- ¹⁰ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

I. Our Text: 2 Corinthians 6:4-10

C. This Passage has 3 Parts

- Vs. 4-5.... “In”
- Vs. 6-7.... “By”
- Vs. 8-10... “As”

D. Each part gives us an essential element of successful evangelism

- Vs. 4-5.... Describes the Work Environment
- Vs. 6-7.... Describes the Requires Tools / Equipment
- Vs. 8-10...Describes the Required Mindset

Verses 4-5

Environment

- in much patience,
- in tribulations,
- in needs,
- in distresses,
- in stripes,
- in imprisonments,
- in tumults,
- in labors,
- in sleeplessness,
- in fastings;

Verses 4-5

Environment

- in much patience,
- in tribulations,
- in needs,
- in distresses,
- in stripes,
- in imprisonments,
- in tumults,
- in labors,
- in sleeplessness,
- in fastings;

Verses 6-7

Equipment

- by purity,
- by knowledge,
- by longsuffering,
- by kindness,
- by the Holy Spirit,
- by sincere love,
- by the word of truth,
- by the power of God,
- by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

Verses 4-5

Environment

- in much patience,
- in tribulations,
- in needs,
- in distresses,
- in stripes,
- in imprisonments,
- in tumults,
- in labors,
- in sleeplessness,
- in fastings;

Verses 6-7

Equipment

- by purity,
- by knowledge,
- by longsuffering,
- by kindness,
- by the Holy Spirit,
- by sincere love,
- by the word of truth,
- by the power of God,
- by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

Verses 8-10

Mindset

- by honor and dishonor,
- by evil report and good report;
- as deceivers, and *yet* true;
- as unknown, and *yet* well known;
- as dying, and behold we live;
- as chastened, and *yet* not killed;
- as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing;
- as poor, yet making many rich;
- as having nothing, and *yet* possessing all things.

I. Our Text: 2 Corinthians 6:4-10

C. This Passage has 3 Parts

- Vs. 4-5.... “In”
- Vs. 6-7.... “By”
- Vs. 8-10... “As”

D. Each part gives us an essential element of successful evangelism

- Vs. 4-5.... Describes the Work Environment
- Vs. 6-7.... Describes the Requires Tools / Equipment
- Vs. 8-10...Describes the Required Mindset

E. Mental Preparation for Successful Evangelism

- **Accept the Work Environment!**
- **Possess the Proper Equipment**
- **Hold to the Required Mindset**

Verses 4-5

Environment

- in much patience,
- in tribulations,
- in needs,
- in distresses,
- in stripes,
- in imprisonments,
- in tumults,
- in labors,
- in sleeplessness,
- in fastings;

Verses 6-7

Equipment

- by purity,
- by knowledge,
- by longsuffering,
- by kindness,
- by the Holy Spirit,
- by sincere love,
- by the word of truth,
- by the power of God,
- by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

Verses 8-10

Mindset

- by honor and dishonor,
- by evil report and good report;
- as deceivers, and *yet* true;
- as unknown, and *yet* well known;
- as dying, and behold we live;
- as chastened, and *yet* not killed;
- as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing;
- as poor, yet making many rich;
- as having nothing, and *yet* possessing all things.

II. The Environment of Successful Evangelism

II. The Environment of Successful Evangelism

Verses 4-5...

But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;

II. The Environment of Successful Evangelism

Verses 4-5...

But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: [in much patience](#), in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, [in labors](#), [in sleeplessness](#), in fastings;

A. Evangelism Requires HARD WORK!

1. Paul Worked Hard for Every soul!

- [Patience](#): Endurance, Steadfastness, sustaining, perseverance
- [Labors](#): Intense labor united with trouble and toil
- [Sleeplessness](#): Keep awake, watch, circumspect, attentive, ready

II. The Environment of Successful Evangelism

Verses 4-5...

But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;

A. Evangelism Requires HARD WORK!

1. Paul Worked Hard for Every soul!

- Patience: Endurance, Steadfastness, sustaining, perseverance
- Labors: Intense labor united with trouble and toil
- Sleeplessness: Keep awake, watch, circumspect, attentive, ready

2. If we want Success in Teaching others...it takes Hard Work!

- a. Long Hours, Late Nights, Early Mornings, **STUDY & PRAYER!**
- b. **John 9:4, 2 Cor. 11:27, Acts 20:7,11**
- c. **Many today don't know what Spiritual Hard work is!!**

II. The Environment of Successful Evangelism

Verses 4-5...

But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;

B. Evangelism Requires SACRIFICE!

1. Paul Personally Sacrificed to Teach others!

- Needs: necessity, imposed either by the circumstances
- Fastings: going without food. Lipscomb...due to his work!

II. The Environment of Successful Evangelism

Verses 4-5...

But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;

B. Evangelism Requires SACRIFICE!

1. Paul Personally Sacrificed to Teach others!

- Needs: necessity, imposed either by the circumstances
- Fastings: going without food. Lipscomb...due to his work!

2. If we want Success in Teaching others...it takes Sacrifice!

- a. Sacrifice...play, hobbies, recreation, things, etc...
- b. Phil 3:8 - Paul lost it (gained it) all!
- c. Many today are not willing to Sacrifice to Evangelize!!

II. The Environment of Successful Evangelism

Verses 4-5...

But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, [in tribulations](#), in needs, [in distresses](#), in stripes, in imprisonments, [in tumults](#), in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;

C. Evangelism will result in CONFLICT!

1. Paul dealt with Conflict and trials Constantly!!

- [Tribulations](#): oppression, affliction, tribulation, distress
- [Distresses](#): dire calamity, extreme affliction
- [Tumults](#): instability, a state of disorder, disturbance, confusion

II. The Environment of Successful Evangelism

Verses 4-5...

But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;

C. Evangelism will result in CONFLICT!

1. Paul dealt with Conflict and trials Constantly!!

- Tribulations: oppression, affliction, tribulation, distress
- Distresses: dire calamity, extreme affliction
- Tumults: instability, a state of disorder, disturbance, confusion

2. If we want Success in Teaching others...Conflicts are Assured!

- a. Friends, family, Workers, False Teachers
- b. Matthew 10:34-39, 2 Timothy 3:12, Paul's travels!
- c. Many today run from Conflict, abandoning the Truth!!

II. The Environment of Successful Evangelism

Verses 4-5...

But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, [in stripes](#), [in imprisonments](#), in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;

D. Evangelism will result in HURT!

1. Paul dealt with both Physical and Emotional Pain!!

- [Stripes](#): a blow, stripe, a wound
- [Imprisonments](#): (under) guard, watch

II. The Environment of Successful Evangelism

Verses 4-5...

But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;

D. Evangelism will result in HURT!

1. Paul dealt with both Physical and Emotional Pain!!

- Stipes: a blow, stripe, a wound
- Imprisonments: (under) guard, watch

2. If we want Success in Teaching others...Hurt is Assured!

- a. Hurt feelings, soured relationships, Painful exchanges
- b. Jesus betrayed by All, Paul pained & alone - 2 Tim 4:9-16
- c. Many today are not willing to endure the Pain, they give in!

III. Successful Evangelism requires...

A. Understanding and Accepting tough work conditions!

III. Successful Evangelism requires...

- A. Understanding and Accepting tough work conditions!
- B. Paul relates to us how tough it is...First Hand!

1. He Prepared himself & Pressed on!

Phil 3:12-14 - ¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

2. He endured it to the end!

2 Tim 4:7 - 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

- C. We need to **Prepare**, **Get to Work** and **Endure!!**

CONCLUSION...

1. Of the most successful workers in the Kingdom of God, the Apostle Paul is at the forefront!
2. How was Paul able to be so Successful?

CONCLUSION...

1. Of the most successful workers in the Kingdom of God, the Apostle Paul is at the forefront!
2. How was Paul able to be so Successful?
3. He Was willing to Deal with the TOUGH Environment
 - a. Evangelism Requires HARD WORK!
 - b. Evangelism Requires SACRIFICE!
 - c. Evangelism will result in CONFLICT!
 - d. Evangelism will result in HURT!
4. If we want to Grow, then we need to prepare and learn to handle this tough Environment