

III. THE LOVE OF CHRIST **CALLS** YOU (5:18-21)

The “ministry of reconciliation” refers to the work believers have been given to do and the message we declare: you can have a restored relationship with God through Christ. We need reconciliation with God because our relationship with Him was broken because of sin. We minister to people by proclaiming the gospel and its assurance that forgiveness of sin is possible in Christ.

- A. The love of Christ calls you to a ministry of **reconciliation** (vs 18-19).

“10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

11 And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.”

Romans 5:10-11

“For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus’ sake.”

II Corinthians 4:5

- B. The love of Christ calls you to be His **ambassador** (vs 20-21).

“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,”

Philippians 3:20

“So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” John 20:21

Will You Use The Ordinary Action Of Your Love To Be A Difference Maker?

THE DIFFERENCE MAKER **Ordinary Actions For Eternal Impact** **My Love Can Make A Difference** **Pastor Steve Reynolds**

INTRODUCTION

- A. Are you ready to be a Difference Maker? If you are like most people, there’s something about sharing your faith that makes you clam up. When you think about talking to the unbelievers in your life about God, you worry that you may say the wrong things or that they may think negatively of you. But those thoughts are whispers and lies from an enemy hoping to keep you trapped in a life of little impact. God has called you to be a difference maker by being a light for Him.

“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.”

Matthew 5:14

- B. God has uniquely positioned you to influence those around you for him. He wants to partner with you in changing people’s lives both now and for eternity. This teaching series will show you how you can begin using your everyday life to make a difference in the lives of those who don’t know Jesus.

Jan 6	My Readiness Can Make A Difference
Jan 20	My Story Can Make A Difference
Jan 27	My Good News Can Make A Difference
Feb 3	My Generosity Can Make A Difference
Feb 10	My Invitation Can Make A Difference
TODAY	My Love Can Make A Difference
Feb 24	My Commitment Can Make A Difference

- C. **TEXT:** II Corinthians 5:14-21 (Pew Bible/Pg.1135/
New Testament)

MY LOVE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Difference Maker Principle: My love can make an eternal difference.

I. THE LOVE OF CHRIST **MOTIVATES** YOU (5:14-16)

- A. Christ loved you and died to **self** that you might live (vs 14-16).

“We love Him because He first loved us.”

I John 4:19

“6 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die.

8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.”

Romans 5:6-9

“He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”

Matthew 26:39

“In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”

I John 4:9

- B. You should love people and die to self so others might **live** (vs 14-16).

“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”

I John 4:7

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Galatians 2:20

“... I die daily.”

I Corinthians 15:31b

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

John 10:10

II. THE LOVE OF CHRIST **TRANSFORMS** YOU (5:17)

- A. The love of Christ transforms both the **quality** and **quantity** of your life.

“20 But you have not so learned Christ,

21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:

22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.”

Ephesians 4:20-24

“You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.”

John 15:3

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

John 3:16

- B. There are so many people in this world who are **longing** for a complete transformation. You have the good news that through the love of Christ they can be made **new**.

“Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

Romans 6:4