

Dearest LW Extended Family Members,

READY FOR THE **NEW YOU**? No, we're not talking about a new weight loss plan here or "self improvement". No, something that is MUCH more exciting and actually lasts FOREVER -- **becoming a New Creation in Christ...** 😊.!!!

1. Please **pray** for the Holy Spirit to guide and open your heart and mind, then reread our text for the week: **2 Cor. 5:16-21**.
2. Let's not be distracted by things of the world (vs 16 --let go of the "fleshly" stuff/distractions of the world). Key verse is vs. 17.:learn to live **IN CHRIST**, daily. ASK Him to make you His new creation **every morning**.
3. We "get there" by starting with personalizing the Gospel -- that simply means understanding in your heart that **God sent His Son to PAY for you and reconcile you to Him -- forever**. Learning this will allow you to live a truly **GRACE--FULL** life -- at one and at peace with God. Vs 18 : 19.
4. Vs 20; Once we are living reconciled/grace--full/forgiven lives we are ready to be **Ambassadors for Christ** by simply letting others see the ways God fills your life and you depend on Him. More people than you know are searching today, especially in light of our covid situation.
5. Verse 21 simple caps it all off by giving us as clear a statement of the Gospel as you will ever read!

May the God of all peace and comfort fill you with His Holy Spirit so that you may live IN CHRIST!

SEE YOU ASH WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT 7 PM TO WORSHIP AND BEGIN OUR LENTEN SEASON TOGETHER.. WE WILL SHARE BOTH THE SACRAMENT AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES.

Pastor

Rev. Michael W. Birnbaum
Pastor, Living Word Lutheran Church