

## "Who Am I?"

Part I: The Letter of Christ 2 Corinthians 3:1-6

*Going Beyond* the sermons into the Scripture preached by Pastor Peter Oh on September 23, 2018

### ***Entering In:***

*What are some good things about hand-written letters?*

*Share an episode about some of your hand-written letters.*

1. Paul uses the first person *plural* (we) throughout this section. What is the antecedent of this pronoun (1:1)?

Who else might be included (cf. 8:23; Acts 18:5, 20:4-6)?

In light of this, do you think that when Paul uses the term, "ministers of a new covenant" in verse 6, he is referring specifically to especially gifted/called men, or does he have all believers in mind? Why?

2. What answer does Paul expect in verse 1?

(Note. Every question using μή (*me*) in Greek expects the "no" answer, and Paul uses μή (*me*) in verse 1.)

How are the Corinthians Paul's "letter of recommendation"?

The word "written" in verse 2 means "engraved." In what practical ways would you engrave some names in your heart?

Share some names you would like to engrave in your heart.

3. In the early church, when a Christian traveled from one city to another, he was given letters of commendation to take with him. Which of the following are valid reasons for this practice?

- A. To introduce the stranger to a different group of believers
- B. To vouch for the stranger's faith in Christ
- C. To urge the congregation to welcome the stranger as a brother
- D. Other

How does the church still practice sending letters of recommendation with believers when they move away to a new city?

What should the church do when a member leaves the congregation without their blessing?

4. What do you think the Spirit writes on human hearts?

What are the 2 C's that God gives?

What are your roles in 2 C's?

Is there any competence that you are claiming for yourself that comes from God? What is the danger in doing this?

5. Pastor mentions three characters of Christ's letter. What are they? Explain how those characters apply to you.

A.

B.

C.

How does that encourage you to move forward in a particular ministry that God is calling you to do?

6. Paul contrasts the "letter" (Law) of the old covenant with the "Spirit" (Gospel) of the new covenant. In what way(s) does the Law kill, and the Gospel give life?

Based on verse 6, some people argue that there is no hope in the Old Testament because the letter (Law) always kills. Do you agree with their claim? Why or why not?

How do you think the "letter" (Law) and the Spirit are related to the new covenant?

What is your role in the new covenant?

***Living It Out:***

What would you write in your *letter of Christ*?

Pray for those who need to read your letter of Christ and send your letter to them this week.