

# Message Notes

## Widen Your Hearts

Scripture Passages  
*(taken from the English Standard Version)*

**Introduction** – The aftermath of “whoosh! whoosh! whoosh!”

**Previously on Bridezilla**

**Today's Message:**  
*Widen Your Hearts*  
2 Corinthians 6:3-13

**Paul's pattern woven through 2 Corinthians**

1. Preach the Gospel
2. Defend the Ministry
3. Make an Appeal

**Paul's Ongoing Defense of his Ministry**

**#1 - Preach the Gospel**  
2 Cor. 5:17-21

**#2 - Defend the Ministry**  
*"We put no obstacle in anyone's way..."*  
2 Corinthians 6:3

*"We commend ourselves in every way..."*  
2 Corinthians 6:4-8a

1. By surviving the Hunger Games
2. By being more Christian than you
3. Through prosperity OR adversity

*"We are..."*  
2 Corinthians 8b-10

In conclusion, *"Our heart is wide open."*  
2 Corinthians 6:11

**#3 - Make an Appeal**

THEREFORE,

1. There are no obstacles due to us.
  2. **WIDEN YOUR HEARTS!** To change the internal we must connect to the eternal.
- 2 Corinthians 6:12-13

**Gospel Application**

1. *Have you received the grace of God?*  
IF SO, through God,
2. *Is it your aim to widen your hearts,*
3. *And to remove all obstacles for others?*

**Community Gospel Application** – *How might we as Hope Community Church connect to the eternal to change the internal for the sake of the external?*

**2 Corinthians 6:3-13**

3 We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, 4 but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, 5 beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; 6 by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; 7 by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8 through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; 9 as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; 10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything. 11 We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians; our heart is wide open. 12 You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections. 13 In return (I speak as to children) widen your hearts also.





You hear a bigger whoosh  
 You smell a fresher aroma  
 You taste an extra richness

Why? Because Chase & Sanborn "Dust-Top" Coffee is better than any other leading brand. It's the only one that's pressure packed. And pressure packing preserves coffee freshness and flavor better than vacuum cans or bags.

Chase & Sanborn Coffee are served by more five hotels and restaurants throughout America than any other brand.

**Chase & Sanborn**

THE COFFEE THAT TELS YOU IT'S FRESHER!

diary of

The dog got often  
 deep in mud this  
 week. Then they  
 wonder why they are  
 shut out of the  
 living room!  
 This is Holly  
 at a puppy.

**R**ain and wind, and water  
 and a most exciting month  
 is, with the smell of cold water  
 in the sharp air and all the  
 mingling like mud, and the pool  
 pale, mucky light. There is  
 no dust and primitive about

All takes to training Holly  
 the food where there is no  
 can see them from any  
 shoring Irish and the tall  
 blue-checked stadium coat  
 down the wind. Holly's tail  
 a sailboat putting out to sea  
 lifted head is beautiful be-  
 lieve quivers with eagerness  
 see the leash; she hates  
 other dog trained, but it is  
 to slow to human limitation

It is hard to believe  
 Holly over a year—and her  
 eyed little puppy has changed  
 puppy, staggering around  
 legs, is a little like a young  
 year, the Irish is poetry  
 fairly skimming through it

Speaking of motion re-  
 the book I have been read-  
 a moment in the home which  
 ter on motion-mindedness  
 to do with planning your  
 the peak of efficient re-  
 When I got through iron  
 turned to this book to  
 motion-mindedness in  
 not at all surprised to find  
 tion of a poor ironer for  
 rubber glove, Fast and  
 and running the iron has  
 ironing in wrinkles at  
 als, yes, that is my ironer  
 the description of the  
 Nothing to it, iron glides  
 folded neatly in nothing  
 shall certainly study this  
 have a heretofore suspicion  
 good book can teach me  
 gain ironing.

Some people have a her-  
 some don't, but of course  
 reason not to struggle in  
 way, I tell myself, I can  
 a few number of changes

# Ladies Home Journal

1955





whoosh, yeah look at dem babies





Woosh



**WHOOOSH**

Genesis 1:3



A note from a friend

## 2 Corinthians 4:6

“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.

A STUDY OF 2 CORINTHIANS



# BRIDEZILLA RETURNS

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IN COLOR

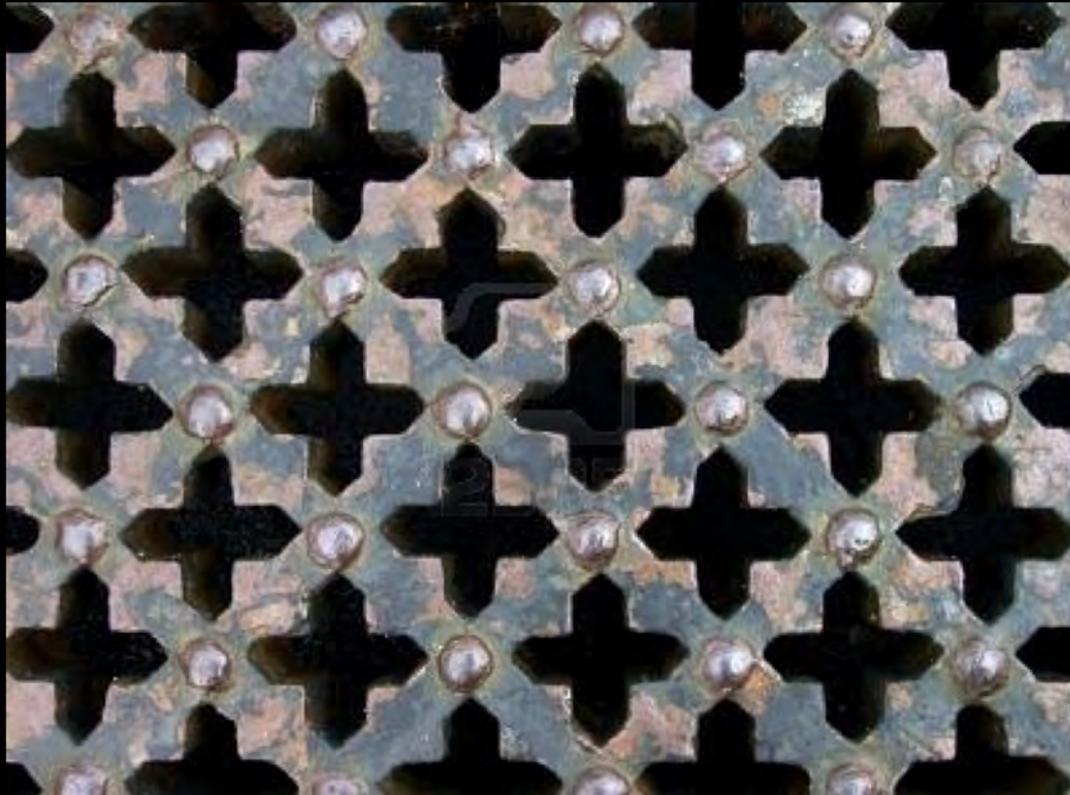




**THE  
MINISTRY OF  
RECONCILIATION**

# Paul's pattern woven through 2 Corinthians

## #1 – Preach the gospel



# Paul's pattern woven through 2 Corinthians

#1 – Preach the gospel

#2 – Defend the ministry



# Paul's pattern woven through 2 Corinthians

**#1 – Preach the gospel**

**#2 – Defend the ministry**

**#3 – Make an appeal**



## LAST WEEK: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

### #1 - *Preach the Gospel*

<sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: <sup>19</sup>that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

# THIS WEEK: 2 Corinthians 6:3-13

## #2 - *Defend the Ministry*

3 We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry,

**2 Corinthians 6:3-4**  
**#2 - *Defend the Ministry***

**3** We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, **4** but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way:



**2 Corinthians 6:3-8**  
**#2 - *Defend the Ministry***

**By Surviving the Hunger Games**

3 We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, 4 but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way by great endurance: in afflictions, hardships, calamities, 5 beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; 6 by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; 7 by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8 through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise.

## 2 Corinthians 6:3-8

### #2 - *Defend the Ministry*

“A ministry of reconciliation requires that one must go to those who are unreconciled and impenitent, to claim those claimed by Satan, to march boldly into the dens of vice, ignorance, and devilry. It is dangerous work, as Christ’s crucifixion reveals. The demonic powers do not lie down weakly in submission when the gospel is preached. But they rise up and lash out viciously in a desperate attempt to prevent it from taking hold.”



Garland, D. E. (2001). Vol. 29: 2 Corinthians (electronic ed.). Logos Library System; The New American Commentary (307). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

## 2 Corinthians 6:3-8

### #2 - *Defend the Ministry*

By being more Christian than them

3 We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, 4 but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, 5 beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; 6 by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; 7 by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8 through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise.

## 2 Corinthians 6:3-8

### #2 - *Defend the Ministry*

“In summary, Paul assumes that the gospel is discredited by those ministers who are lustful, impure, ignorant, overbearing, indignant, rude, unkind, and hypocritical in their love, cultivating those whom they think can benefit them in some way. Such ministers have neither the Holy Spirit nor the power of God.”



Garland, D. E. (2001). Vol. 29: 2 Corinthians (electronic ed.). Logos Library System; The New American Commentary (310). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

## 2 Corinthians 6:3-8

### #2 - *Defend the Ministry*

#### Through prosperity or adversity

3 We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, 4 but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, 5 beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; 6 by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; 7 by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8 through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise.

**2 Corinthians 6:3-8**  
**#2 - *Defend the Ministry***

Through prosperity or adversity

2 Corinthians 10:4

For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

**2 Corinthians 6:8-10**  
**#2 - *Defend the Ministry***

8b We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; 9 as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; 10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

# 2 Corinthians 6:8-10

## #2 - *Defend the Ministry*

seen = transient, unseen = eternal

We are treated as ...

- Impostors
- Unknown
- Dying
- Punished
- Sorrowful
- Poor
- Having nothing

But through God we are...

- True
- Well known
- Living
- Not killed
- Always rejoicing
- Making many rich
- Possessing everything

## 2 Corinthians 6:11-13

### *Make an Appeal*

**11** We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians; our heart is wide open. **12** You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections. **13** In return (I speak as to children) widen your hearts also.

## 2 Corinthians 6:11-13

### *Make an Appeal*

**11** We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians; our heart is wide open. **12** You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections. **13** In return (I speak as to children) widen your hearts also.



**Rick Warren** @RickWarren

27 Mar

The most powerful motivation for lasting in ministry is neither external nor internal, but eternal.

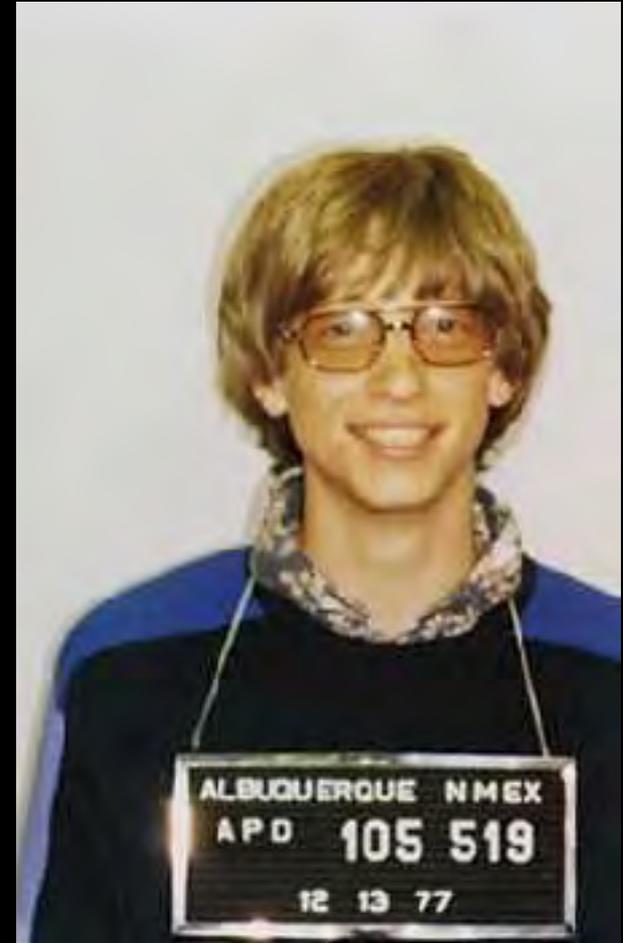
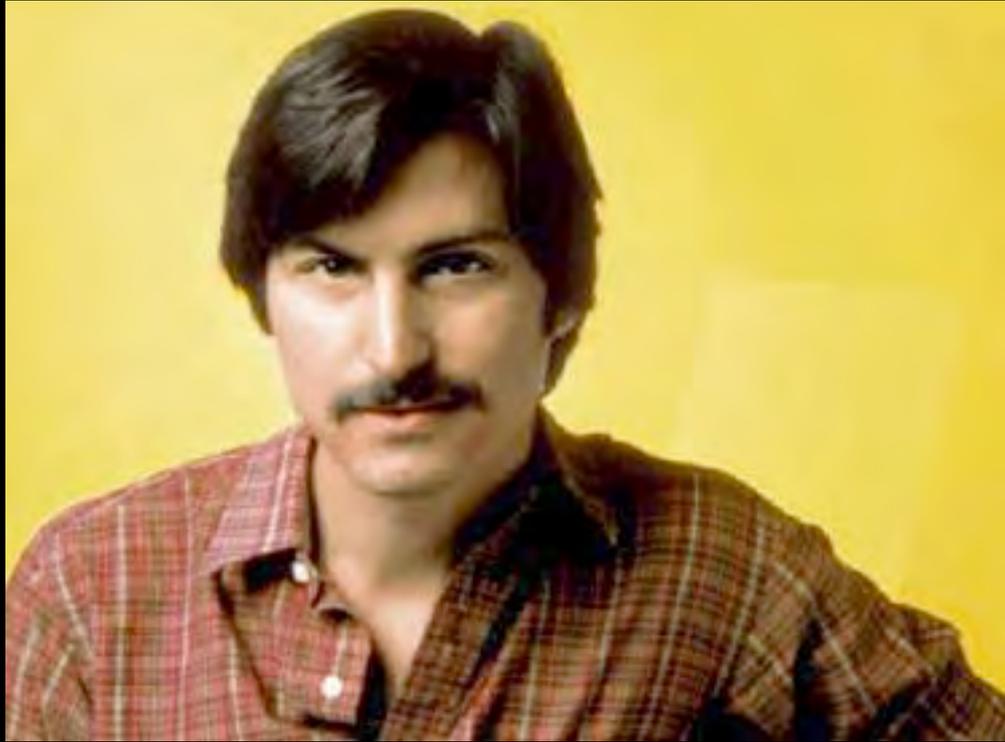


**Rick Warren** @RickWarren

27 Mar

What “widen your heart” does not mean

# What “widen your heart” does not mean



What “widen your heart” does not mean



# What “widen your heart” does mean



# What “widen your heart” does mean



# Gospel Application

# Gospel Application

Have you received the grace of God?

# Gospel Application

Have you received the grace of God?

If so, *through God*, is it your aim to:

*Remove all obstacles for others*  
so Christ might be clearly seen?

# Gospel Application

Have you received the grace of God?

If so, *through God*, is it your aim to:

*Remove all obstacles for others*  
so Christ might be clearly seen?

*Widen your hearts*  
as demonstration of God's grace  
already received?

# Community Gospel Application

**“We put no obstacle in anyone’s way...”**

## **Hope Community Church is**

A **dream** of a church where God is honored as we learn to trust, rely and hope in Him as the only One who satisfies our deepest longings.

It is a **dream** of a place where people from all walks of life come into a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ, being loved, accepted and valued from the very moment they cross our path.

It is a **dream** of a place in which all the caricatures of Christianity are broken down and removed in order for non-Christians and Christians alike to grow in a non-threatening environment—a place where seeking the answers to tough, real-life questions is encouraged.

It is a **dream** of a shelter for those who are hurting; a "new start" for those who have come from legalistic or overly shaming religious experiences, offering Biblical counseling for those who are in need or crisis.

# Community Gospel Application

How might we - as Hope Community -  
widen our hearts?

# Community Gospel Application

How might we - as Hope Community -  
widen our hearts?

How might we encourage one another  
To connect to the eternal  
To change the internal  
To reach those external?