

“So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!” 2 Corinthians 5:16-17 NLT

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I find this phrase again, “human point of view” or perspective. Jesus uses a similar phrase in Mark 8 with Peter, we don’t see from God’s perspective. Paul adds, at one point they all saw Christ from ONLY a human perspective - how wrong they were. In this light of perspective, Paul gives us the famous, “I’m a new creation.” So looking at ourselves and certainly others means that, in light of Christ, we must all see people differently when they “belong” to Jesus. Wow! Our lens, our frame of reference, our previous judgments and future prognosis have to change. And, we have to be the one that works on changing it! That is also why Paul admonishes us to be ambassadors, reconciliators to God with this plea, this message, “Come back to God!” Our heart’s cry is a message of mercy saying come back and welcome home when people make a decision to believe. What a powerful message in these days of hopelessness and helplessness. What a humble way to see a godly perspective in every person I speak with. So that with every greeting, every conversation, there is an underlying message of yearning and hope that emotes “not only does God see you and know you, he’s been waiting for you to come home.” There is no judgment there. There is not arguing, name calling or attitude of arrogance, there is only love and longing.

Dad,

I would like the undercurrent of my conversations to be filled with that kind of constant invitation when I get the chance to spend a few moments with those who may be far from you. For I was once far from you, but I heard you call out my name and you invited me to a relationship that has forever changed my life.