

Message notes for Sunday November 26, 2017

“Our Sufficiency in Christ”

2 Corinthians 2:16-3:6

Over many years of ministry, I’ve often heard individuals say “I just don’t feel adequate for that” or “I don’t think I can handle that,” when faced with a job, ministry or new challenge. Have you ever felt that way?

In Second Corinthians, writing about his ministry, the apostle Paul addresses the issue of adequacy in the context of ministry from what might be considered a surprising perspective.

Some in the church in Corinth had questioned whether Paul should be in ministry, and the apostle may have struggled with his own feelings. He used the word translated “adequate” or “sufficient” four times in 2 Corinthians 2:16 through 3:5. His conclusion? None of us is adequate or sufficient on our own, and we can’t generate or produce it through natural talent or human effort.

When it comes to sufficiency (or adequacy), keep these four facts in mind:

- I. None of us has it (2:16)
- II. We can’t develop or generate it on our own (3:5)
- III. God is the only valid source (3:5)
- IV. God has a purpose in providing our sufficiency (3:6)

So how do I access this Holy Spirit-empowered sufficiency?

Galatians 5:16 “Walk in the Spirit”

Ephesians 5:18 “Be filled with (controlled by) the Spirit”