MESSAGE: NATHAN BAIRD MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 2022

Fully Equipped to Serve and Influence Through the Power of the Trinity

2 Cor. 3:4 Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. **5** Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, **6** who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

We have every reason for confidence as we spread Jesus's fame.

2 Cor. 3:4 Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God.

- Led by the Father in Christ's triumph (v. 2:14)
- Perfumed with Jesus's pleasing fragrance (v. 2:15)
- Commissioned to tell the truth of Jesus in full view of the Father (v. 2:17)
- Authored by Christ through the presence of the Spirit (v. 3:3)

The Father is the source of our beneficial influence in the world.

2 Cor. 3:5 Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God,

The Spirit's presence applies the rich benefits of the new, life-giving covenant.

2 Cor. 3:6 who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Romans 7:6 But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

Our influential lives bloom from the New Covenant benefits secured by Jesus.

Luke 22:20 And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

Jeremiah 31:31"Behold, the days are coming, declares Yahweh, when I will make a new covenant... 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares Yahweh: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know Yahweh,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares Yahweh. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

Reflection & Discussion

- 1. The Father makes you sufficient to influence and benefit others in his name.
 - a. How does that knowledge make you feel?
 - b. What's one practical step you can take to organize your daily life around this truth?
- 2. Read Jeremiah 31:33-34.
 - a. List/discuss the benefits of this new covenant.
 - b. Identify your spheres of influence.
 - c. How might a joyful awareness of them shape interactions with the people you engage with on an average day?

SUNGS	RANGE I	
"FOUND IN YOU" - Paul Baloche and Andi Rozier	GIVING LAST WEEK: WEEKLY NEED:	\$ 20,869.00 \$ 36,093.00
"GOD SO LOVED" - Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, and Scott Cash	WEEKET WEED.	\$ 55,555.55
"O COME TO THE ALTAR" – Mack Brock, Steven Furtick	Y-T-D GIVING: Y-T-D GENERAL NEED:	\$221,427.65 \$288,744.00