

The Influencer Monthly

Day Seven

MINISTERS OF RECONCILIATION AND THE PROBLEM OF PAIN



*Jennifer with
YWA Israel
participant
Ella Jones*

Jennifer Pendleton
Field Engagement Specialist

In June, I was honored to accompany 17 college-aged Christian Young Women for America (YWA) leaders on a 10-day educational tour of Israel facilitated by Passages and YWA. My role as their Chaplain was not only to provide spiritual leadership by connecting the Biblical sites, history, and cultural moments to Biblical truth, but also to learn and become a stronger advocate for Israel, while exploring the complexities of being a source of reconciliation of the Jewish people to Christ. Day seven was by far the most emotionally charged day for all of us.

On Sunday, June 7, we visited several sites that had been terrorist targets for the October 7, 2023, attacks. That day, our group came face-to-face with pure evil. Though the recovery and cleanup of the sites have made things easier to “see,” the stories of mass murder, burnings, sexual violence, abductions, and torture remain the same:

horrific, terrifying, tragic, unbelievable, infuriating, maddening, and gut-wrenching. Nothing could have prepared our group for what we now bear witness ...

My difficult assignment that day was to make sense of the “problem of pain, suffering, and evil” from a Christian worldview. Though many of my presentations were guided by my own life experiences, nothing in my life prepared me to respond to that day. In that

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JULY 2026

A publication prepared exclusively for CWA leaders, members, and friends dedicated to impacting the culture for Christ through both prayer and action.

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July Chapter Tips

Find a meaningful ways to serve in your community while advancing the issues about which CWA cares deeply:

- Volunteer at a Pregnancy Resource Center (Sanctity of Life)
- Provide hygiene kits to a human trafficking rescue (Sexual Exploitation)
- Set up a "She Prays, She Votes" voter registration drive at your church (National Sovereignty)
- Engage with activities at a Jewish community center (Support for Israel)



CWA OF TEXAS' Fort Worth Prayer/Action Chapter partnered with **Unbound Now** to provide backpacks of essential items for victims of human trafficking. They took time to pray over each bag asking God to bring hope, healing, and restoration to the person who receives the resource.

Did you catch that?

STAY INFORMED by checking the concernedwomen.org website often and reading the weekly national updates that hit your in-box every week. But, in case you missed it ...



Religious Freedom

Play Ball, Not Politics!

Sports are not a Jumbotron for political agendas. It is appalling that MLB would try to silence Christians who refuse to align with a political agenda it should not be pushing in the first place. Of course, individual players should be free to express their beliefs, but teams and leagues should emphasize camaraderie and memories above politics.

[Read the story.](#)



Parental Rights

Parents want to know what their children are watching.

"Parents should be able to make informed viewing decisions for their children, but currently, parents have no way of knowing whether LGBTQ+ content is in that program. It's time to give parents that choice," said Penny Nance, CEO and President of Concerned Women for America.

[Read the story.](#)



Sanctity of Human Life

The Dignity of Human Life and Work with the Rise of AI

Pope Leo XIV signed "Magnifica humanitas: On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence," May 15, 2026. His appeal speaks to safeguarding humanity and promoting the dignity of work, the common good, truth, and peace. [Read the story.](#)



On the Hill

Maggie McKneely
Director of Government Relations

CWALAC Holds Capitol Hill Briefing to Support Moms

Abortion advocates would have the country believe that pro-lifers only care about the baby while it is in the womb and have no regard for the mother or

the child after it is born. But the reality is that the pro-life community has created countless resources specifically to care for both mom and baby throughout every step of motherhood. In honor of the four-year anniversary of the Dobbs decision, Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee (CWALAC) held a Capitol Hill briefing designed to educate staff and their Members of Congress about the resources about which their constituents should know.

A [study](#) found that 60% of women who had abortions would have preferred to carry their pregnancies to term if they had received greater support, resources, or assistance. We know that this is not because those resources do not exist, but because many women simply and tragically do not know about them. At the briefing, CWALAC President Penny Nance noted that there are over 2,600 pregnancy resource centers (PRCs) and 19,000 federally qualified health centers nationwide. That's over 20,000 centers that offer a range of services to women versus just 750 abortion clinics. Unfortunately, these often faith-based and non-profit centers do not have the marketing budget of the abortion giants.

That's one reason the launch of Moms.gov is such an important development in the fight to protect life. Each speaker heavily emphasized the incredible new website for which CWALAC has advocated over the past four years. Now that it's a reality, we want every woman in the country to know that it's available to them.

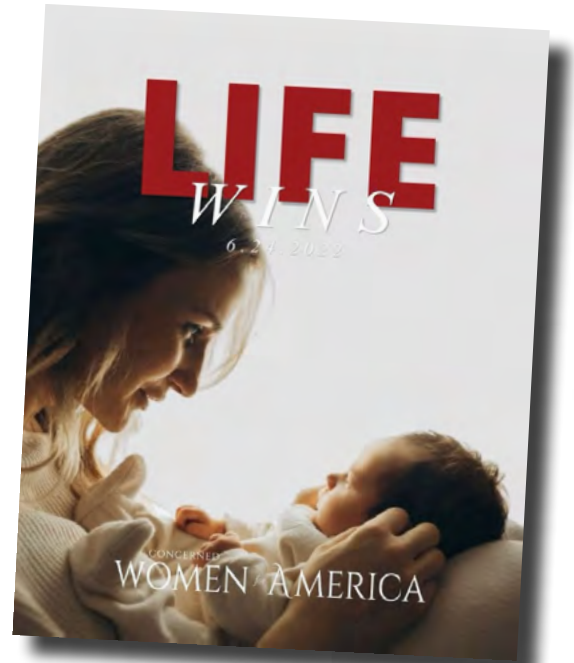
Sen. Katie Britt (R-Alabama) shared with the nearly 50 attendees about the importance of the website. Not only does it offer a plethora of resources necessary during pregnancy, but it also provides forward-looking supports such as the new Trump Accounts. But she also explained the need to codify it with her bill, the [MOMs Act](#), so that a future administration cannot use the website to promote abortion services or simply take it offline.

PRAYER

Pray that each person who attended the briefing walked away with information to empower the women in their home districts and that they were encouraged by the good work being done every day to support moms and their babies.

ACTION

Continue to engage with local Sanctity of Life causes to promote a culture of life in your community by volunteering for the nursery and preschool ministries at church or leading a Bible study on the Sanctity of Life for your church community or life group.



Celebrating "[Dobbs](#)" Decision Day



"[Senator Britt](#) shared with the nearly 50 attendees at the CWALAC Capitol Hill Briefing about the importance of the website."



U.S. Supreme Court Upholds Women's Sports for Women Only!

Decision [UPDATE](#)



GIRLS WIN AT THE SUPREME COURT!

[Penny's response to the decision.](#)

JUNE 1 Hannah Lape's op-ed, "Inaction has consequences: Mail-order mifepristone is midterm game-changer," was published by [The Washington Examiner](#).

JUNE 1 [Baptist Press](#) cited CWA support of the Protect Life Rule.

JUNE 4 [The Federalist](#) cited CWA research about Planned Parenthood, in a story titled, "Congress About To Resupply Millions To Child Mutilation."

JUNE 10 Maggie McKneely spoke with [Fox News](#) for a story titled, "Emergency action seeks to prevent erasure of 'mother' and 'father' in code of largest US town."

JUNE 15 [NewsBusters](#) reported about Penny Nance's segment on CNN in a story titled, "Cornish SHUTS DOWN Panelist's Newsom Investigation Talk, Shifts to Presidential Hopes."

JUNE 15 "Coalition warns 80% of kids have been exposed to porn, backs age-verification bill," [Fox News](#) reported, citing CWA as a supporter of new legislation.

JUNE 16 Penny Nance appeared on [CNN's This Morning with Audie Cornish](#) to discuss the news of the day from a conservative perspective.

JUNE 16 Maggie McKneely's op-ed, "The Darker Side Of Sports That Could Be Targeting Your Kids," was published by [The Daily Wire](#).

JUNE 19 [National Review](#) interviewed Melissa Henson for a story about CWA's new poll data about the TV content ratings system and why parents want LGBTQ+ content on kids TV programming to be labeled.

JUNE 22 [LifeSiteNews](#) cited CWA research in a piece titled, "Trump admin investigating Michigan schools for allowing 'transgender' boys in girls' sports, lockers."

JUNE 22 [The Daily Citizen](#) wrote, "Rep. Hageman Introduces Resolution Demanding Transparency in TV Show Ratings," citing CWA's poll about the TV content ratings system.

JUNE 23 [Movie Guide](#) wrote about the broken TV content ratings system.

JUNE 30 [The Christian Post](#) reports, "Supreme Court says states can ban males from girls' sports," referencing CWA's report revealing that over 1,900 trans athletes received awards and scholarships over biological females athletes since 1980.



Celebrating the win!

God created humanity in God's own image, in the divine image God created them, male and female God created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, and everything crawling on the ground."

—Genesis 1:27-28



The Jig Isn't Up!

Hannah Lape, Legislative Strategist

On July 4, a trans-identifying male is slated to compete in the girls' category at the North American Irish Dance Championship (NAIDC) in Orlando, Florida. [Concerned Women for America](#) has followed this case for over three years. Yet the Irish dance powers-that-be continue to refuse to protect their female dancers, as "Alyssa" Saltzman

continues to dominate girls' competitions and rob female dancers of the medals and titles they deserve.

Right now, thousands of girls are spending countless hours in the studio practicing for the NAIDC. I know, because I've been there—through hours upon hours in the studio from age eight to twenty, countless bloodied socks, fiberglass hard shoe tips worn thin, and an impressive collection of stamps in my passport, Irish dance made me the woman that I am today.

Girls' sports for girls matters for every sport, even Irish Dance. CWA's women's sports champion, Congressman Greg Stuebe (R-Florida 27th) sent a letter to the Irish Dance governing bodies demanding fairness and equal opportunity for girls in Irish Dance.

God is not a God of confusion, but of peace—even in Irish dance!

PRAYER

Pray for CWALAC as we work to make this coming Irish Dance nationals safe and fair for women and girls, whether by a change of heart or the rule of law by a swift and decisive change in sex-designation policies to protect girls' Irish dance for girls only.

ACTION

Encourage Attorney General Uthmeier to stand his ground for this common sense rule of law. Send encouraging postcards to: Office of the Attorney General, State of Florida, PL-01, The Capitol, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050.

God isn't a God of disorder but of peace.

—1 Corinthians 14:33a



UPDATE on this active story: Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier responded to the upcoming competition.

LEADER highlight



CWA of Michigan State Director, Tracey Henry (2nd from the right), was honored at a Tea Party hosted by She Leads Michigan. The organization is committed to equipping and encouraging Christian women to uphold traditional values and make a positive impact in their communities.

INVESTING IN LEADERSHIP

Training and Equipping Grassroots Leaders



CWA OF VIRGINIA Teresa Pregnall, State Director of CWA of Virginia (bottom right standing), has been bringing leaders together for regional leadership meetings across the state. By dividing Virginia into five regions, she has created a fun and effective way for leaders to connect, share ideas, and encourage one another.

FREE WEBINAR

Ordinary women doing
EXTRAordinary things

FOR CWA LEADERS, MEMBERS, AND FRIENDS



FAIR PLAY IN GIRLS' SPORTS

Wednesday, July 29 at 3:30 PM EST

Director of Government Relations Maggie McKneely will discuss the Irish Dance controversy and how it is shaping up.

State Legislative Strategist Macy Charles will discuss the two Women's Sports Supreme Court Decisions and how states can engage with this issue going forward.



Ordinary Women. Extraordinary Obedience. Eternal Impact.

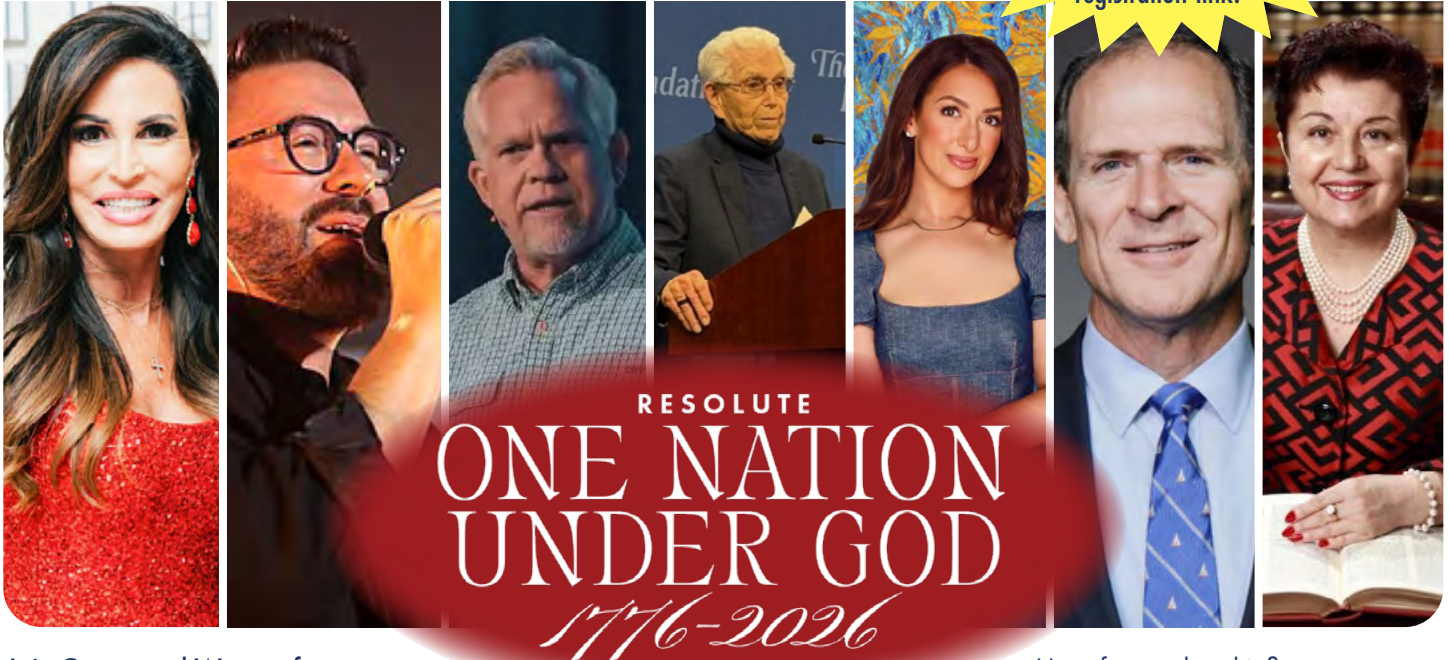
REGISTER TODAY.



DEADLINE IS JULY 28 to register for SUMMIT 2026
September 17–19, 2026 in Washington, D.C.

CWA LEADERS

Check your June 5 email
from Michelle for important
leader discounts and your
registration link!



Join Concerned Women for America in Washington, D.C., to honor America: **Resolute, One Nation Under God**, at what promises to be the largest and most galvanizing Summit in CWA history. If you choose to start early, **Thursday's Lobby Day** offers a unique opportunity to receive a legislative briefing from CWA staff and federal legislators, then to visit key lawmakers on Capitol Hill.

Get ready to be inspired all day Friday with **Christian Music Artist Danny Gokey and Messianic Jewish Worship Leader and Songwriter Misha Goetz Hoyt**.

Hear from cultural influencers, including **CWA CEO and President Penny Nance, Pastor Steve Berger, Detransitioner Walt Heyer, Historian and Author Bill Federer, Human Rights Attorney and International Speaker Virginia Prodan**, and more. That evening, celebrate America's 250th birthday at our annual **Red, White, and True Gala**.

Saturday morning, come together with like-minded Believers who share your commitment to impact the culture for Christ through prayer and advocacy, for a morning of personal and professional development, encouragement, prayer, and fellowship.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER

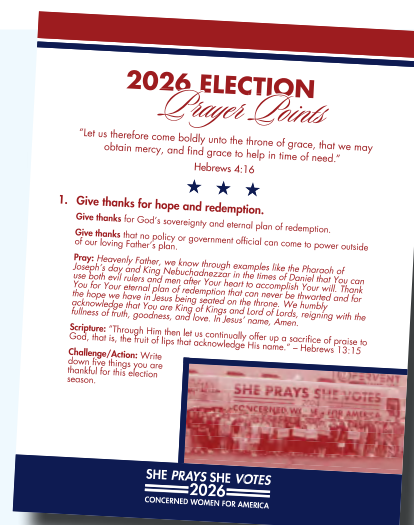
2026 ELECTION *Prayer Points*

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

—Hebrews 4:16

Prayer Points as we approach the midterms elections.

1. Give thanks for hope and redemption.
2. Pray for God to awaken Christians to faithful stewardship.
3. Pray for wisdom for voters and elected officials.
4. Pray for protection and justice in the election process and government.



Download this resource to
share with your Chapter members.



► CWA OF VIRGINIA

Prayer/Action Chapter Leader Tumay Harding

spoke at a press conference about the Loudon County School District's failure to protect girls against sexual assault.

[Watch her remarks here.](#)



◄ CWA OF MISSOURI

Kathy Meyer, Encourage-A-Legislator (EAL) Coordinator for CWA of Missouri, recently sent more than 100 thank-you cards to EAL volunteers.



▲ CWA OF TEXAS

The Ellis County Prayer/Action Chapter recently delivered Ten Commandments posters to the Ennis Independent School District for display in classrooms, as required by Texas Law.



◄ CWA OF NEW MEXICO

The Questa Prayer/Action Chapter faithfully gathers monthly for prayer, fellowship, and action.



CWA OF OKLAHOMA ◄ ▲

Joy Howell, State Director of CWA of Oklahoma (left, 2nd from the right), hosted a festive gathering for leaders and friends to celebrate CWA's statewide growth, new leaders, and America's 250th birthday!



Concerned Women for America gathers to pray at the Supreme Court before the 9-0 Women's Sports decisions were handed down on June 30.

Recommitting TO THE FOUNDATION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH



Faith Ozenbough

National Director
Young Women for America

Generation Z is rarely spoken of in a positive light. Quite often, our generation is labeled as entitled, self-centered, and lazy. Unfortunately, there is some truth to the concern that many young people today lack an appreciation for the sacrifices,

principles, and values that helped build this nation. The freedoms we enjoy can feel commonplace, causing us to take for granted the tremendous cost at which they were secured.

Many factors may have contributed to this cultural shift, but one thing remains clear: we must recommit ourselves to both understanding and celebrating the foundations upon which this nation was built—chief among them, the Christian faith.

Although our culture has grown increasingly hostile toward Christian values, the opportunity to speak truth into every sphere of society remains. The religious liberty we enjoy today can only be preserved by those willing to recognize the significant role that Judeo-Christian principles played in the founding of our country and who are committed to advocating for their continued influence on our culture and public life.

Young Women for America (YWA) is excited to equip leaders to do exactly that through our new Christian Nationalism resource. As Patrick Henry famously stated:

"It cannot be emphasized too clearly, and too often, that this nation was founded not by religionists, but by Christians, not on religion in general, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason, people of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom to worship here."

As we approach the 250th anniversary of the United States, may we take time to celebrate the remarkable history of our nation and the many blessings we continue to enjoy today. YWA leaders embody this spirit in the various spheres where God has placed them. They are among the shining lights of Generation Z—young women committed to embracing the mantle of leadership and faithfully serving their communities for years to come, trusting in God's continued guidance and blessing. 🙏

PRAYER

Pray for growth in the YWA Program across the country.

ACTION

Help a young woman in your sphere of influence start a YWA High School or Collegiate Chapter. Inspire her by bringing her to [YWALT](#) (Young Women for America Leadership Training) while you attend the [2026 Summit](#) September 17-19 in Washington D.C.

Learn more about [Young Women for America](#).



1) CWA of NEBRASKA State Director Mary Meininger (right) met with the Nebraska State Capitol Chaplain's wife for a walk around the Capitol grounds. 2) CWA of OKLAHOMA State Director Joy Howell (right) joined new Prayer/Action Chapter Leader Arlene Blanchard for an informational meeting in the Oklahoma City area. 3) CWA of MISSOURI State Director Haven Howard celebrates YWA High School Chapter Leader Anna Hall on her graduation from the School of the Ozarks. The pink cord she wore signifies her involvement and leadership in YWA. 4) CWA of PENNSYLVANIA State Director Dilonna Coran spoke to the Berks County Patriots about the growing concern over human trafficking in Pennsylvania. 5) CWA of KENTUCKY State Director Cordelia Schaber (right) and Chapter Coordinator and Prayer/Action Chapter Leader Debbie McCool attended the Kentucky Republican Party's Statewide Lincoln Dinner. 6) CWA of NORTH DAKOTA State Director Linda Thorson (3rd from left) and her Steering Committee enjoyed a time of prayer, planning, and fellowship, all centered around a hearty farm-cooked breakfast!

CWA on the move ... CWA of Louisiana in Mississippi

Dedicated Louisiana Prayer/Action Chapter Leader Anne Ryan (right) crossed the Mississippi border to speak to the Walthall County Republican Women's group about CWA, generating significant interest!

"I loved having this opportunity to share CWA," said Anne.



Day Seven cont.



moment, only my faith in a sovereign God, an all-powerful Creator, a good Father, and a living Word would do.

In Genesis 3, when Adam and Eve disobeyed and ate the forbidden fruit, God immediately presented a plan for redemption. In the text of the curse on the serpent (Satan) in verse 15, "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed," we see this plan. This account sets the stage for an eternal battle between Satan and the offspring of the woman, who would be the salvation for all men, in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah. In the second part of verse 15, God tells us the end of the story, "... He shall (fatally) bruise you on the head, and you shall (only) bruise him on the heel." Righteousness wins. Mercy wins. Justice wins. Hope wins. Creation wins. God wins.

According to John 3:17, God sent His one and only Son, Jesus Christ, not to condemn the world but to save it. Though life is full of the symptoms of sin, such as abuse, terrorism, hunger, loneliness, false accusations, rejection, cancer, disease, and death, in Christ there is a diagnosis and a cure. Sin is the diagnosis for the problem of pain. Jesus' redemptive work on the cross brings healing for suffering and hope in the face of evil.

Jesus is the answer to the problem of pain, suffering, and evil.

As a believer in Christ, with the help of the Holy Spirit, my sinful nature no longer lives in me, and I am a new creation. I have cast off that old, sinful self and have experienced the transformation of Christ's work on the cross. And now, as part of God's redemptive story, the Word tells me that I am a minister of reconciliation alongside Jesus Himself (2 Corinthians 5:17-18).

Looking back at the photos of the Nova Music Festival Site, Nashal Oz Observers Memorial Lookout, and Kibbutz Kfar Asa, my eyes again fill with tears of outrage and sadness. While listening to world leaders attempt to negotiate geopolitical solutions, I am filled with frustration. I am now attuned to the fact that no man-made,



manufactured solution will prevent antisemitism, restore Israel of the Promise, or save the Jewish people from Satan's attempts to kill, steal, and destroy. Scripture is crystal clear that the only solution to Israel's pain, the suffering of the world, and evil is Jesus Christ. As Believers, we partner with Christ in this ministry as workers of reconciliation, saved not to call

out and punish sin, but to work with God the Father to restore the whole world to Himself.

As I sat with one of our guides at the Nova site, she expressed gratitude to our group. She explained that each time she shared her story, she let a little more of her grief go. That day, our work of reconciliation meant listening and bearing witness to unimaginable atrocities, standing in solidarity with a mother and recovery worker, an Israeli tour guide, a former Israeli combat soldier, an Arab bus driver, a Hamas attack survivor, Jewish grandmothers eating lunch, an IDF soldier in training, and with each other. This place of unimaginable atrocities became Holy Ground, a hallowed space of healing and restoration.

As a people called to participate with God in reconciling the world to Himself, we might find ourselves sharing, serving, or, as Norith reminded me, simply listening, allowing someone else's burden to become a little lighter and, just maybe, over time, opening the door to restoration with the One who offers complete healing from the problem of pain, suffering, and evil in the world. I pray that each of us is able to take a look at the hurting world around us and ask God for ways that we can be ministers of reconciliation, pointing those around us to Christ. ☞



In other words, God was reconciling the world to himself through Christ, by not counting people's sins against them. He has trusted us with this message of reconciliation.

—2 Corinthians 5:19