## Delivering the Bill Paid in Full

Matt. 28:18-20 \& 2 Cor. 5:16-21
Remaining focused on the main thing is $\qquad$ . We let lesser things $\qquad$ us. 2 Cor. 5:16-21 addresses this fact.
The Corinthians were at odds with Paul. After a visit to Corinth, Paul stated his plans to return, but his plans changed. The Corinthians charged Paul with $\qquad$ and with being
$\qquad$ . This text addresses the main reason he didn't return. He couldn't be distracted by $\qquad$ when God had charged him with one main thing, what he calls the ministry of
$\qquad$ . We call it the proclamation of the gospel, our
Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20).
Paul had a deep commitment to the idea that he was ultimately answerable to $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ above everything else. That led to his $2^{\text {nd }}$ conviction - that the ministry of reconciliation had to be the main, driving $\qquad$ of his ministry and of the church.

The word for "reconcile" is the word forming the basis of the modern Greek word for " $\qquad$ " at a restaurant. So, God in Christ has $\qquad$ —.

Because of His love, God paid our debt of $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ against Him and gave us the ministry of reconciliation-of delivering the bill marked " $\qquad$ " by God Himself in Christ.
What a joy and $\qquad$ to be the messengers of such good news. It is the chief calling of the church, and nothing should get in our way.

Christians and churches must keep the main thing the main thing, because our main thing is $\qquad$ main thing and there is no other main thing $\qquad$ than $\qquad$ main thing.

Paul said "that we $\qquad$ become the righteousness of God. You must $\qquad$ the paid bill. It isn't YOUR paid bill until you agree. Our sin bill is so $\qquad$ it can only be paid by God Himself. How foolish not to accept it. How important it is for our church to make the work of presenting their "paid in full" bill to everyone we can and encouraging them to accept it $\qquad$ _.

