

Loving People as Saints

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Bringing the Word to Life?





What's true of every person you meet?

- Struggle with identity
- Struggle with evil
 - From without (suffering)
 - From within (sin)

Geerhardus Vos



- “All that God disclosed of Himself has come in response to the practical religious needs of His people as these emerged in the course of history.”

God ministers to his people as:

- Saints who need confirmation of their identity
- Sufferers who need comfort in the midst of their affliction
- Sinners who need challenge to their sin in light of God's redemptive mercies

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

- 1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, 2 To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people [ESV has “saints”], together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ--their Lord and ours: 3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 4 I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. 5 For in him you have been enriched in every way--with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge-- 6 God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. 7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. 8 He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ministry Priorities



Examples



Why might we struggle to do this
well?

When might we *not* start here?