

WE ARE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST!

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (ESV)

We (Christians) are all here in the same place, and we are here for the same purpose... to tell the lost that they can, and how they can, be reconciled to God.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (ESV)

... we are ambassadors for Christ...

2 Corinthians 5:20 (ESV)

- Reconciliation: when a sinner is made right with God.
- Ambassador: one(s) sent to represent another.

❖ Reconciliation is GOD'S WORK!

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- Implication: It reminds us of the importance of the message we are sent to proclaim.

❖ Reconciliation is the SINNER'S HOPE!

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2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (ESV)

- The Problem: all people are sinners, separated from God.
- The Bigger Problem: the sinner can't reconcile himself to God.
 - The sinner doesn't have the power/ability/capacity to not be a sinner.
- The Need: The sinner needs to be reconciled to God by God.
- The Solution: Forgiveness.

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.

Ephesians 1:7 (NIV)

- The Provision: Our Lord Jesus Christ.

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

- The Response: Repentance and Faith... We must believe.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:16 (ESV)

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16 (ESV)

- Implication: The sinner's only hope is reconciliation.

❖ Reconciliation is OUR MINISTRY!

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and **gave us the ministry of reconciliation**; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and **entrusting to us the message of reconciliation**. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, **God making his appeal through us**. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For*

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Three undeniable realities for the those in Christ:

1. God has **given** to us the ministry of reconciliation! v. 18
 2. God has **committed** to us the message of reconciliation! v. 19
 3. God is making his appeal **through us**. v. 20
- Implications:
 - We (Christians) are all ambassadors for Christ.
 - We are all qualified to be ambassadors for Christ.
 - We (Christians) are **the** Ambassadors of the Good News.
 - God uses His people to reach people!
 - God isn't sending anyone else!

"God will give you everything you need to be everything He wants!"