**Be Ambassadors for Christ**

We are Christ’s ambassadors- ambassador sent out on a mission to build relationships

* Bible tells us that there are spiritual ambassadors

The role of an ambassador

Responsibilities

Rewards

Role- A rep of Jesus- I rep Him in the world

* The difference between your career and your calling
* The diff between your vocation and your job

-Ambassador for Jesus disguised as a businessman, woman disguised as a basketball coach

That’s your career or job, but not your calling

2 Timothy 1-

God saved us and called us to be His own because of His own grace

What’s your calling?

Romans 1:7 called to be His people, His friend, holy, fellowship, speak for Christ, serve, to love in peace, to become like Jesus for, to suffer for him

-This is your calling- If you are Christian you are an ambassador- you have an assignment

It will affect the way you live- Phil 1:27

* Way that brings honor to Christ
* Every morning you must remember who you represent everywhere you go
* When playing a pickup game –remember who you rep
* Grocery store, theater, in line in traffic remember
* If you name the name of Christ
* Ephesians 4:1 live the life worthy of the calling- for every believer

Not only represents- I’ve been given a mission- sent on a diplomatic mission

* The permanent mission to whatever country –each embassy
* John 17- in the same you gave me a mission, I give them a mission
* To be His ambassadors
* When you are on a mission- the only thing that matters- not there for any other reason
* People in war- sent by our country to get a job done
* Working, have a mission to accomplish
* The most important mission we have another is: helping people getting to know God
* Helping people settle their eternal destiny
* Our mission is more important than any other mission

Acts 20:24 My life is not dear to myself- The work that he gave me to tell people about God’s grace

* I finished the race- He completed the race

When you stand- Did you complete the mission?

Not only do I have a mission, I have been given authority to speak

* Most of us feel not very confident, a little timid or shy
* I don’t know what to say or do- You are authorized! When I ask you, I’ll empower you to do this
* Matthew 28- I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth
* I authorize you- make them my disciples
* I will be with you always
* The great a Commission- our mission in life- given to all Christians- every one of His followers
* Did you do it?
* Somebody gave you the good news, did you pass it on?

Plenipotentiary- Latin phrase- full power- somebody authorized to represent the govt with offers without having to check back

During Revolutionary war- John Adams and Ben Franklin- to France and England – to sign treaties without being approved by Congress

-Don’t need to check back with us

-Historically these people were called ministers- Plenty Potentiary- minister of Commerce- Prime Minister

- to act on behalf of someone else- in our case- ministers of Jesus Christ

- every believer- you are authorized to speak on my behalf- you rep me, I’ve given you a mission

I serve in a foreign culture- you might have never thought abuut this- your home is not on earth- your home is not on earth

Only 70 to 80 years- eternity in heaven

He made you to be part of His family for trillions of years in Heaven

-Where does an ambassador live- foreign country- china lives in China- America’s ambassador

-Often in enemy territory

-This is world is not your home, your just passing through!

1 Peter 1- live your time as temporary residents on earth

-Ambassadors don’t buy permanent homes- they rent- they’re not staying there-short term assignment

-not in homeland

Jesus is saying don’t get too comfortable in this world

Don’t get sucked in to only the here and now

\_Your role is not to make your life as comfortable as possible

**Philippians 3:19-20** Others aren’t thinking about eternity- the one with the most toys wins- Life is not about the acquisition of things

-citizens of heaven

I wish us Christians could walk around with green cards as reminders

What am I supposed to do while I’m here?

* Why after I’m baptized, take communion, confess my confession- Why does God just leave us here and not take us?
* Why not just save us the headache of life here?

Why does He leave you on earth- to be an ambassador

Have you been an ambassador to anybody else?

3 responsibilities while on earth as ambassadors

1. **Set a good example**- Help others know what God is like- fruits of the HS

**1 Peter 2**- people who don’t believe are living all around you- live such good lives that they see the good things you do and give glory to God

Asked an ambassador of Argentina – What is the most difficult part of being an ambassador

- **you’re never off duty**- No matter what I do, I represent the US- people are watching everything

* What if you lived your life like that?
* No matter where you go, you might be the only Christian some people might ever know
* The only Bible- the living Bible- can either make God look good or make Him look bad
* Some people don’t know the Lord because they’ve never met a Christian
* the other reason is that some have unfortunately met some Christians
* Does your walk match your talk?
* Are you compassionate, merciful, polite, take other people’s feelings into consideration

How well does your daily life represent Jesus? Can they tell what Jesus is like by watching you?

* If they look at you- they might say Jesus must be very kind, or very patient, very forgiving
* What does your life say about god to the people around you?
* Whether you like it or not- you are an ambassador

1. **I must share the message**- I have a message that God has given me and he wants me to share it with other people

-in politics ambassadors used or sent to bring reconciliation to warring entities, to negotiate peace, to sign treaties

This is not an accident that God chose this term to refer to you

* We are to help people make peace with him and get right with God
* 2 Corinthians 5:17-19
* Getting people fresh starts- through Christ changed us from enemies to friends and to make others the friends of God
* The message is:
* 1) He offers everybody a new life or a new birth- Would you like to start over?
* 2) Jesus ends our war with God- you are at war with God until you make peace with Him
* Your soul is at war

That rebellion against God ways puts you at war with Him-

3) all of our war crimes are forgiven through Christ- God was in Christ making peace between the world and Himself

**5:19-6:1**

We speak for Christ when we beg you to be right with God

1. **I must show love-** why?

* **Because God is love**- if you show anything else, you’re not showing God

How?

* 1- Use my life to meet others needs- by serving or ministering others- you are showing love to meet their needs
* **1 Thess 2:8**- we gave you our own lives as well
* If you will be an ambassador- you need to get out of the embassy
* Must get out where people are hurting- use my life to meet others needs
* 2- giving respect to everyone- you are not allowed to be disrespectful to anyone
* Why? Because God values everyone- they had dignity of being created in image of God
* **1 Peter 2:17**

Everyone you meet- you may not put others down- use sarcasm, use same type of words for people you disagree with

Not if you voted for them, show dignity to everyone

* Show love and kindness- Do everything in love!
* **1 Peter 3:15**
* 3- Show love by building bridges not walls
* **1 Corinthians 9:22-23** Whatever a person is like, I will try to find common ground- to get the good news to them- build the bridge so Jesus can walk across

What’s the reward?

Colossians 3:23-24 Whatever you do, all your heart

* - He will give you the inheritance He has kept for you-

Learn a new language

Not be able to isolate yourself from the enemy- must make contact and relate to them

* Can’t prefer it to your own homeland- don’t be the traitor and get so settled in the enemy territory that you betray master who has sent you