

## 03 • Ambassadors for Christ

In [2 Corinthians 5:19-20](#), notice how Paul summarizes the mission of the apostles:

...in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and

\_\_\_\_\_ to us the \_\_\_\_\_ of reconciliation. Therefore, we are \_\_\_\_\_ for Christ, God making his appeal \_\_\_\_\_ us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

**Who were these apostles?** They were **ambassadors** for Christ. What does that mean? Consider...

...the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may \_\_\_\_\_ it boldly, as I ought to speak. ([Eph 6:19-20](#))

...for he is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the LORD of hosts. ([Mal 2:7](#))

...you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, \_\_\_\_\_ Christ Jesus. ([Gal 4:14](#))

An **ambassador** is a representative with a message who ought to be received **"as"** the one who sent him ([2 Cor 6:1](#)).

☀ Jesus himself had promised that his apostles would be guided in a unique way by the Holy Spirit ([John 14:25-26](#); [16:12-14](#)).

☀ The apostles' responsibility as ambassadors was to declare the whole counsel of God ([Matt 28:19-20](#); [Acts 20:27](#)).

What we're blessed with as a result is the gospel, preserved in written form:

For I \_\_\_\_\_ to you as of first importance what I also \_\_\_\_\_... ([1 Cor 15:3](#))



### For Class & Family Discussion:

► Going back to [2 Corinthians 5:19-20](#) for a moment...

- What does it mean to be "entrusted" with a message?

- In your own words, how would anyone be able to "implore" someone "on behalf of Christ"?

► Let's use [2 Peter 1:1-4](#) as a case study:

- What was Peter's responsibility as an "apostle of Jesus Christ"?

- How did he fulfill that responsibility?

- What blessing is available to all of us as a result of Peter's work?

► But what if someone decided they didn't want to listen to the apostles? Was that a big deal? What can we learn from...

- [1 Corinthians 14:36-38](#)?

- [1 Thessalonians 2:9-13](#)?

- [1 Thessalonians 4:1-8](#)?

- [Luke 10:16](#)?

