

## 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 **entrusting** to us the **message** of reconciliation. Therefore, we are **ambassadors** for Christ, God making his appeal **through** 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 **declare** it boldly, as I ought to speak. ([Eph 6:19-20](#))

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

...you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, **as** 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 **delivered** to you as of first importance what I also **received**... ([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](#)?

