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## Each member is aware that we are Christ's ambassadors on earth, representing Him in everything we do at home, work, and in our community.

**2 Corinthians 5:18-20** 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.

### WHAT IS AN AMBASSADOR?

By definition, an ambassador is:

A diplomatic agent of the highest rank accredited to a foreign government or sovereign as the resident representative of his or her own government or sovereign or appointed for a special and often temporary diplomatic assignment.

-ALSO-

An authorized representative or messenger.

If we are "ambassadors for Christ..." as Paul states, then we are literally an official messenger and representative of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ to a foreign land or people.

# **Q.** What is your initial reaction to the possibility of being an official representative of Christ's Kingdom?

## **NEW CITIZENSHIP**

An ambassador must first be a citizen of the people or nation they represent. Because Christ brought us into His Kingdom, we are now citizens of the Kingdom and can be ambassadors. We couldn't before, now we can.

**Philippians 3:30-21** But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, (21) who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

**Ephesians 2:18-19** For through him [Christ] we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. (19) So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but **you are fellow citizens with the saints** and members of the household of God.

This also means we are now spiritual foreigners in this world. Any part of this world outside of the Kingdom of God is foreign land to us; we have become sojourners here.

This can be difficult to wrap our head around— being a sojourner in our own land, or at least what used to be our own land. But this is why Christ reminds us to store up treasures in heaven instead of treasures on earth. This is not our home, and storing treasures here is temporary at best.

Also, sojourners don't put down deep roots in the places where they reside because they know they will soon move on. We can love it here, but we no longer belong here. Our citizenship is elsewhere.

#### REPRESENT

As sojourners here but citizens of heaven, we have a role to fill—Ambassador. We get to represent the new citizenship we have to the old world we used to belong to. Everywhere we go, and in everything we do, we are expected to represent the Kingdom and the King.

This includes our home life, our work life, our church life, and our community life. Everywhere. And it includes our thoughts, our activities, our relationships. Everything. Everyone who looks at you is looking at an ambassador.

This is your purpose now; to glorify God by representing Him. All the KMI's find their purpose in this role of yours. Christ gave you the incredible honor of representing him to the world you're in. Pray, learn, grow, and mature into the most effective ambassador you can be. Exemplify the values and standards of your permanent home, heaven. He promises to be with you and will sustain you.

**2 Corinthians 5:20** Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

#### SUMMARY

Because of the actions of the King, Jesus Christ, you are now an ambassador of the Kingdom of God. Your citizenship used to be in this world, but no longer. You are now a citizen of heaven and have been called to represent your new citizenship to the world you sojourn. You are His Ambassador and an Ambassador looks like this:

**Romans 12:9-21** Be sincere in your love for others. Hate everything that is evil and hold tight to everything that is good. (10) Love each other as brothers and sisters and honor others more than you do yourself. (11) Never give up. Eagerly follow the Holy Spirit and serve the Lord. (12) Let your hope make you glad. Be patient in time of trouble and never stop praying. (13) Take care of God's needy people and welcome strangers into your home. (14) Ask God to bless everyone who mistreats you. Ask him to bless them and not to curse them. (15) When others are happy, be happy with them, and when they are sad, be sad. (16) Be friendly with everyone. Don't be proud and feel that you are smarter than others. (17) Make friends with ordinary people. Don't mistreat someone who has mistreated you. (18) But try to earn the respect of others and do your best to live at peace with everyone. (19) Dear friends, don't try to get even. Let God take revenge. In the Scriptures the Lord says, "I am the one to take revenge and pay them back." (20) The Scriptures also say, "If your enemies are hungry, give them something to eat. And if they are thirsty, give them something to drink. This will be the same as piling burning coals on their heads." (21) Don't let evil defeat you but defeat evil with good.

#### LEADERSHIP CONNECTION QUESTION

**Q.** How does being an ambassador of the Kingdom of God impact your leadership in the marketplace?

## **RESOURCES FOR NEXT STEPS**

- Bible Reading
  Romans 8|CSB Bible|YouVersion; Romans 12|CSB Bible|YouVersion
- RightNow Media @Work study True Success at Work https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/365031