Ambassadors

2 Corinthians 5.16-21

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. 17 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 Cor. 5:16-21, ESV)

1. New Perspective (v. 16-17)

- We are a new _____ ٠
- Everyone is created ٠ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. (Gen. 1:26a)

2. New Position (v. 18-20)

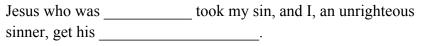
Ambassadors

- Are always _____
- Are in the world but _____
- ٠
- Represent _____ Bring the message of _____ ٠

3. New Proclamation (v. 21)

Reconciliation through the cross

The Great Exchange



Questions for personal study:

1. How do I view those around me? Do I truly see each person as an image-bearer of God?

2. Where has God sent me? What are my circles of accountability?

3. How well do I represent the King? What preferences do I represent instead of speaking for the King?

4. Great Exchange: Do I proclaim the full message of reconciliation of do I just offer "fire insurance"? Do I understand the exchange on the cross and live as the righteousness of Christ?

> A sermon by Jason McNutt (03/22/09)