

SERMON NOTES:

VOL 4: Part 33: Ambassadors of Christ: Called to Proclaim

BIG Idea: Every believer is an ambassador of Christ—empowered by grace, humbled by His glory, and commissioned to proclaim His name where He is not yet known.

Application: Live sent. Represent Christ boldly and faithfully where He is not yet known—whether that’s across the street, across your workplace, or across the world.

Join us as we read the Bible together in 2025.

<https://bit.ly/ReadwithMe25>

Romans 15:13 (NLT)

¹³ I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

I. Ambassadors Are Empowered to Represent Christ (vv.14-16)

1. Ambassadors are empowered to represent Christ.

Romans 15:14-16 (NLT)

¹⁴ I am fully convinced, my dear brothers and sisters, that you are full of goodness. You know these things so well you can teach each other all about them. ¹⁵ Even so, I have been bold enough to write about some of these points, knowing that all you need is this reminder. For by God’s grace, ¹⁶ I am a special messenger from Christ Jesus to you Gentiles. I bring you the Good News so that I might present you as an acceptable offering to God, made holy by the Holy Spirit.

An ambassador doesn’t speak from ability but from authority.

2 Corinthians 5:20 (NLT)

²⁰ So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!”

II. Ambassadors Give Glory to God, Not Themselves (vv.17-19)

Romans 15:17-19 (NLT)

¹⁷ So I have reason to be enthusiastic about all Christ Jesus has done through me in my service to God. ¹⁸ Yet I dare not boast about anything except what Christ has done through me, bringing the Gentiles to God by my message and by the way I worked among them. ¹⁹ They were convinced by the power of miraculous signs and wonders and by the power of God’s Spirit. In this way, I have fully presented the Good News of Christ from Jerusalem all the way to Illyricum.

2. Ambassadors give glory to God, not themselves.

Ambassadors measure success by obedience, not applause.

III. Ambassadors Are Sent Where Christ is Not Known (vv.20-24)

Romans 15:20-24 (NLT)

²⁰ My ambition has always been to preach the Good News where the name of Christ has never been heard, rather than where a church has already been started by someone else. ²¹ I have been following the plan spoken of in the Scriptures, where it says,

“Those who have never been told about him will see,
and those who have never heard of him will understand.”

²² In fact, my visit to you has been delayed so long because I have been preaching in these places.

Paul's Travel Plans

²³ But now I have finished my work in these regions, and after all these long years of waiting, I am eager to visit you. ²⁴ I am planning to go to Spain, and when I do, I will stop off in Rome. And after I have enjoyed your fellowship for a little while, you can provide for my journey.

Isaiah 52:15 (NLT)

¹⁵ And he will startle many nations.
Kings will stand speechless in his presence.
For they will see what they had not been told;
they will understand what they had not heard about.

The gospel advances when God's people go beyond their comfort zones.

3. Ambassadors are sent where Christ is not known.

2 Corinthians 10:13-16 (NLT)

¹³ We will not boast about things done outside our area of authority. We will boast only about what has happened within the boundaries of the work God has given us, which includes our working with you. ¹⁴ We are not reaching beyond these boundaries when we claim authority over you, as if we had never visited you. For we were the first to travel all the way to Corinth with the Good News of Christ.

¹⁵ Nor do we boast and claim credit for the work someone else has done. Instead, we hope that your faith will grow so that the boundaries of our work among you will be extended. ¹⁶ Then we will be able to go and preach the Good News in other places far beyond you, where no one else is working. Then there will be no question of our boasting about work done in someone else's territory.

We're not called to shuffle sheep; we're called to seek the lost!

We are saved to be sent.