

CHRIST'S AMBASSADORS

Two Basic Truths for the Church

Pastor Chad Gilligan | March 8, 2026

1. If You Are Lost, Jesus Wants You to Be Found

God's heart has always been to seek and restore people who are far from Him. Reconciliation with God is a gift made possible through Jesus. No one earns it, and no one is beyond it. When someone turns to God, heaven celebrates.

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:18, Luke 19:10, Luke 15:10

God is not distant or indifferent toward lost people. He actively pursues them. The mission of Jesus was to seek and save those who were lost, and His heart has not changed. Every person matters deeply to God.

Discussion Questions

- What does it mean to you personally that reconciliation with God is a gift?
- Why do you think it is easy for Christians to forget that we were once spiritually lost too?
- How does knowing that heaven celebrates one person turning to God change how you view people who are far from Him?

Follow-Up Prompt

- Share about a time when you became more aware of God pursuing you or drawing you closer to Him.

Key Takeaways

- Reconciliation with God is a gift given through Jesus.
- God actively seeks people who are lost.
- Every person matters deeply to God, and heaven celebrates when someone turns to Him.

2. If You Are Found, Jesus Wants You to Seek the Lost

Being reconciled to God is not the end of the story. Those who have experienced forgiveness and new life are entrusted with a message to share. God works through His people to invite others back to Him.

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:17, 2 Corinthians 5:19, John 10:10, 1 John 1:9, Titus 3:3–7

The message of reconciliation is powerful because it is rooted in grace. None of us earned salvation. We were rescued by God's kindness and mercy. Because of that, we now carry the message of forgiveness and new life to others.

Discussion Questions

- Why do you think sharing faith can sometimes feel intimidating for believers?
- How does remembering what God rescued us from help us share the gospel with humility?
- In practical terms, what does it look like to help someone move closer to Jesus?

Follow-Up Prompt

- Who is one person in your life right now who may be far from God?

Key Takeaways

- Believers are entrusted with the message of reconciliation.
- Our story of God's grace can point others toward Him.
- God often reaches people through everyday relationships.

3. The Church Exists for the Lost

The church is not primarily a building or a program. It is the people of God living on mission together. Jesus is the one building His church, and He invites us to be part of what He is doing.

Scripture: Ephesians 1:22–23, Matthew 16:18

While buildings can help create space for ministry, the true church is made up of people. When the church gathers, grows, and serves, it reflects the heart of Jesus to a world that needs hope.

Discussion Questions

- Why is it important to remember that the church is people, not just a place?
- How can a church unintentionally become inward-focused?
- What does it look like for a church community to truly live with a heart for the lost?

Follow-Up Prompt

- Share one way our church or your Life Group can help create space for people who are exploring faith.

Key Takeaways

- The church is the body of Christ, not just a building.
- Jesus is the one building His church.
- The church exists to help people find and follow Jesus.

4. We Are Christ's Ambassadors

God chooses to work through ordinary believers to share His message with the world. As ambassadors, we represent Jesus in how we live, speak, and love others.

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:20, 2 Corinthians 2:15, 2 Corinthians 5:21

An ambassador represents the values and message of another kingdom. In the same way, Christians represent Jesus in the world. Our lives, words, and actions can help point people back to God.

Sometimes the impact of our faith reaches farther than we realize. One person's faithfulness can influence families and even generations.

Discussion Questions

- What do you think it means to represent Jesus as His ambassador in everyday life?
- How can the way we live either attract people to Christ or push them away?
- Who has been an example of faithful influence in your life?

Follow-Up Prompt

- What is one small step you could take this week to reflect Christ to someone around you?

Key Takeaways

- Every believer is called to represent Jesus to others.
- Our lives can influence people more than we often realize.
- Jesus gave His life so that we could live in right relationship with God.

Optional Reflection and Prayer

Take a moment to reflect on the people in your life who may be far from God. Ask the Lord to give you compassion, courage, and opportunities to represent Him well. Pray that God would continue drawing people to Himself and that our church would faithfully carry the message of reconciliation.