

Who Do You Think You Are?— Your Most Important Assignment

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 NIV

***presbeuo*: an ambassador; a chosen representative of a ruling authority**

An ambassador is the highest-ranking diplomat sent from one country to another to promote and protect the interest of their home country.

As Christ's Ambassador ...

1. You were not elected by people but chosen by God.

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last ... ¹⁹If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. ...”

John 15:16, 19 NIV

But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. ...
Philippians 3:20 NLT

When God selects you, it doesn't matter who rejects you.

2. You never represent yourself; you always represent God.

Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ. ...
Philippians 1:27 NLT

And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus ... Colossians 3:17 NLT

3. You have the authority of the One who sent you.

I may seem to be boasting too much about the authority given to us by the Lord. But our authority builds you up; it doesn't tear you down. So I will not be ashamed of using my authority.
2 Corinthians 10:8 NLT

“Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy ...” Luke 10:19 NLT

So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!”²¹ For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:20-21 NLT

TALK IT OVER

Read **2 Corinthians 5:17-21**. God says you are His ambassador. How does this truth make you feel? What does it tell you about God?

Share about a time when you were rejected. How has that experience influenced the way you engage with others? How can the truth that God has chosen you change the way you view yourself?

Talk about what it looks like to bring heaven to earth. What does this mean to you, and how can you focus on this mission this week?