

40 Days of Prayer & Devotion to Easter

Day 4

The idea of living outward is much more than just a catchy phrase or just a hashtag. It's meant to be a constant reminder and a representation of what Paul is calling each of us to be in 2 Corinthians 5:20, where he writes: "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God."

It's a strong statement of how we're to live and how we're to embrace the command and the responsibility that we've been charged with to actively engage in the ministry of bringing lost and hurting people to Christ. The position of an ambassador is a high calling that carries tremendous responsibility. An ambassador represents his or her nation to foreign lands or countries where they are temporarily stationed.

As an ambassador for Christ, we must constantly be aware of the message that our actions, our words, our choices and our decisions send to the world around us. We are chosen representatives of Christ, and we must be on guard at all times to always represent the Savior in a way that draws others to Jesus.

Our actions are important, but Paul's message goes deeper than just our actions. He uses two words to express the passion and the emotion that we should have as we engage in the task that we've been given. First, we're called to plead with the people around us as we share the message of Christ. Pleading isn't just delivering a message, it is making an emotional appeal for them to accept the loving gift that God has offered to us.

He goes on to say we're to implore people to see their own need and be reconciled, be brought to together with God through Christ Jesus. It is a picture of a willingness to go to any length to reach others with the Gospel, begging people to listen and make a life-changing decision.

As we approach Easter, who are you pleading with and imploring to know the reality of who Jesus is and what He's done? It requires us to go beyond just a conversation or an invitation and truly connect with people emotionally through caring, loving and serving others as we live out our calling to be God's Ambassador's serving in this foreign land.

– Pastor Kelly Hughes

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