

Text: - 2 Corinthians 5: 20. "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us."

Introduction: - Some will immediately say, "that does not mean me." I am not a preacher, or missionary or special worker. It means you, if you are a Christian. We are ambassadors for Christ.

What is an ambassador? It is one sent to represent us as a people. We have ambassadors to the various countries. They are there to represent our country and to look out for our interests.

We are to represent Christ here in this world. We who are Christians. How are you and I representing Him? If some one did 'nt represent you any better than you do Christ what would you say? Are you representing Christ so others will want to be Christians? Are the people saying, "I would like to be a Christian like you are, or like the man down the road." Does your neighbor say, "if I ever become a Christian, I want to be like you." Do they say "Well if any one leads a Christian life, that person does; he lives every day of the week just like he does on Sunday. When he sells you something you know it is all wool and a yard wide. He does 'nt put the biggest apples on top. When he sells you something you know you can count on it being just as he said it would.

I.

The Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost, says the Word of God.

If We are to represent Him we must have that purpose, to seek and to save that which is lost. We ~~must~~ carry out His mission. Are you concerned that folks are not going to church? Do you lose any sleep praying for the lost. Maybe some of your own loved ones are out of the ark of safety. Are you representing

Christ so they will want to be saved. Are you witnessing for Him? Does your boy or girl know that the most important thing in life is to become a Christian? If not, then you are robbing them, you are failing them. How are you living before your family. Are you sometimes cross & grouchy? Do you fly off the handle & throw a tantrum? If you do, do you think the family has faith in you? Do you get mad & just won't talk to any of them? Is that representing Christ.

II.

We must live Christ like lives, if we would be effective ambassadors for Him. "As his custom was He went into the synagague on the Sabbath day? Is that your custom.? Too many people go to church if they have time or no other place to go. What will be our excuse when we stand before the judgment bar.

Some say they can live for Christ and not go to church. Of course the invalids and bed ridden patients do not go, but many of them would go, if they could. The ones who say that they are too busy and are well and able to go, but don't go, are not very good ambassadors for Christ. They don't impress any one with their Christ like life. People don't send for them when they want some one to pray with them and for them.

The wife of an invalid came to church one Sunday, after being absent several Sundays because of her many home duties. As she left the church that Sunday morning, she told the minister that she just couldn't get along another week without the church. You can't either, can you. You miss church a lot without reason & see if you do not lose your testimony and find it hard to pray, if you can pray at all.

III.

"He went out to a solitary place to pray:
One S.S. teacher said she was so busy she just

couldn't find time to pray? How effective was she as a teacher, do you suppose? Well, many church members do not pray. Oh, yes, if they are sick, or their children are sick, maybe they pray then. As Christian ambassadors for Christ we are to pray every day. If this church would begin to pray, really pray, things would start to happen. We would have a great revival. He is the same Christ, but are we faithful?

I heard of a family that was converted and started to have a time for reading the Word and having prayer. One morning during corn picking time the father said, "you go ahead and pray if you want to, I haven't got the time this morning. So he hurried off to the field. He came in that evening all cross and out of sorts. He said the tractor had broken down, the corn picker would not work right, and that everything seemed to go wrong, he just did not know what was the matter. A little girl, the daughter of the man, spoke up and said, "daddy you did not pray this morning; you did not ask God to help you today, did you? I believe she was right.

The world knows what God expects of you. It expects you to live like Christ every day, go to church on Sunday and be a man or woman of prayer. If you are not doing these things they will not have confidence in you as an ambassador of Christ Jesus. They are saying you are no different than sinners.

Do you want God to bless us as a church, then let us be serious about the matter and not merely play church and religion. God says that if we are lukewarm, he will spue us out of his mouth.

Would you want to be a Christian if some one did not represent Christ any better than you do. How about it?

When you come to the judgment He will say, "Well done good and faithful servant" or will he say, "depart from me, I never knew you".