

Devotions – August 25-31, 2019

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Sunday, August 25, 2019

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

Ambassadors of Christ – 2 Corinthians 5:20

When a sovereign nation has established diplomatic relations with a foreign nation, an ambassador is appointed to represent that nation abroad. This passage is a call for us to become ambassadors of Christ to the world. We are in Christ and therefore can see the new creation. We see that the old has passed away and there is a new creation. This is the call from God to be ambassadors of the good news. While this passage is a call to action, it also serves as a guide to being an ambassador for Christ. Through Christ, God was reconciling the world so that we may be righteous to God and enter his kingdom.

Let us pray: *Lord God, make us ambassadors for Christ and for your kingdom so that we can proclaim your good news to the world. Amen.*



Monday, August 26, 2019

Text: Numbers 11:26-30

“Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!” And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.”

All the Lord's people were prophets – Numbers 11:29

This passage shows us that we are all chosen by God to be his ambassadors. We don't need to be chosen by other people to tell the good news of God. This passage shows that it is not the choice of the people who may be an ambassador for God, it is God's choice. Further in the passage it is stated that all of the Lord's people are prophets/ambassadors for God. Everything we do, no matter how small, is way of being an ambassador for God.

Let us pray: *Dear God, open our eye to things both small and large, so that we may be better ambassadors for your kingdom. Amen.*



Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Text: Acts 1:7-9

“He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.”

You will be my witnesses – Acts 1:8

This passage from Acts is a call to bear witness to the kingdom of God. When an ambassador is in a foreign nation they are tasked with showing that nation what it is like in their home nation. As ambassadors for the kingdom of God, we are tasked with showing the world what the kingdom is like. We share this by telling people about the good news. In this passage, Jesus also tells that we are not to know when the kingdom will return but we are to bear witness to it still.

Let us Pray: *Lord, let us bear witness to your kingdom even when we don't know when it will return. Amen.*



Wednesday, August 28, 2019

Text: Ephesians 4:29-32

“Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all

bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.”

Let no evil talk come out of your mouths – Ephesians 4:29

As ambassadors for God, we are called to show the kingdom of God to the world. As ambassadors we are also called to uphold the witness of the kingdom. We have been marked with the seal of the kingdom of God and must show the values that God has shown us. We are to be kind and forgiving to each other because God has been kind and forgiving to us. Every day we must struggle to show the world what the kingdom of God is like. While it may seem painful, we must show the world the kindness and forgiveness that God has shown us.

Let us pray: *Lord, let no evil talk come from our lips, so that we may better show your kingdom to the world. Amen.*



Thursday, August 29, 2019

Text: Ephesians 5:1-2

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”

Imitators of God – Ephesians 5:1

An ambassador is to show the values of their home nation to the nation in which they are posted. As ambassadors of God we must show his values to the world. We show this by showing how Christ loved and sacrificed himself for us.

Let us pray: *Lord, allow us to show the love that Christ showed us by sacrificing himself for us. Amen.*



Friday, August 30, 2019

Text: Matthew 28:19-20

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Go therefore and make disciples – Matthew 28:19

As the ambassadors for God we are to go out into the world proclaiming the good news. Ambassadors are to be the physical representation of one nation in another. As ambassadors we are to show all people what God has shown us.

Let us pray: *Dear God, let us be the physical representation of you in the world, sharing the good news. Amen.*



Saturday, August 31, 2019

Text: Luke 10:3-9

“Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’ And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’”

I am sending you out – Luke 10:3

We are all sent out by God to be the ambassadors of the kingdom. We are sent out into an area filled with wolves and are tasked with sharing the good news. We are to show peace to all those whom we come across even if it is not returned. When we show the grace of God to the world, we are proclaiming that the kingdom of God is near.

Let us pray: *Lord, give us the strength to be your ambassadors in a world full of wolves. Amen.*

