

The Ministry of Reconciliation

2Co 5:17-21 Therefore, if anyone is **in Christ**, he is a **new creation**. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

- 18 All this is from God, who through Christ **reconciled us** to himself and **gave us** the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
- 20 **Therefore, we are ambassadors** for Christ, **God making his appeal through us**. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
- 21 For our sake he **made him to be sin** who knew no sin, so that in him **we might become the righteousness of God**.

See how passionate God is about reconciliation - and that he has brought us into the work

Stepping into Ambassadorship (Prayer, Care, Share, Dare)

PRAYER

- **SET AN ALARM** Mat 9:37-38 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore **pray** earnestly to the Lord of the harvest **to send out laborers into his harvest**."
- **NOTE CARDS ON BULLETIN** Joh 17:20 ESV "I do not ask for these only, but also **for those who will believe in me through their word**,

CARE

- **ACTS OF KINDNESS** Mat 5:16 ESV In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

SHARE

- Eph 6:19-20 and [*pray*] also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth **boldly** to **proclaim** the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may **declare it boldly**, as I ought to speak.

→ (Training in 3 circles and The Four) (raise your hand if you know how) (goal for all to be equipped)

→ (Train kids in SS, Youth Group, training classes, learn by doing)

DARE

- **DISCIPLE** Psa 51:13 ESV Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

→ Take someone who has interest in God under your wing

→ Simple discipleship plan (read the NT in 1 year) 5 chapters 1 per 5 days, meet once a week for 20 minutes

→ Start a discipleship group, or a church that meets in the home

The Four Lepers

2Ki 7:3-9 NLT Now there were four men with leprosy sitting at the entrance of the city gates. "Why should we sit here waiting to die?" they asked each other. 4 "We will starve if we stay here, but with the famine in the city, we will starve if we go back there. So we might as well go out and surrender to the Aramean army. If they let us live, so much the better. But if they kill us, we would have died anyway." 5 So at twilight they set out for the camp of the Arameans. But when they came to the edge of the camp, no one was there! 6 For the Lord had caused the Aramean army to hear the clatter of speeding chariots and the galloping of horses and the sounds of a great army approaching. "The king of Israel has hired the Hittites and Egyptians to attack us!" they cried to one another. 7 So they panicked and ran into the night, abandoning their tents, horses, donkeys, and everything else, as they fled for their lives. 8 When the men with leprosy arrived at the edge of the camp, they went into one tent after another, eating and drinking wine; and they carried off silver and gold and clothing and hid it. 9 Finally, they said to each other, "This is not right. This is a day of good news, and we aren't sharing it with anyone! If we wait until morning, some calamity will certainly fall upon us. Come on, let's go back and tell the people at the palace.