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Ambassadors for Christ

PART 1



Introduction



- “After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.” (Luke 10:1)
- After these things...



Luke Chapter 9

- Christ sends the 12
- He questions the disciples about Himself
- “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. (Lk. 9:23)
- “Then a dispute arose among them as to which of them would be greatest.” (Lk. 9:47)
- Disciples in Samaria
- “Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?” (Lk. 9:53)

Luke Chapter 9

The Cost of Discipleship

- “Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.” (v. 58)
- **#1 Relinquish personal and earthly security**
- *Foxes and birds come to steal...if they have a nest in me there will be no place for Christ to enter. Where will He find rest? (St. Cyril of Alexandria)*
- “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God.” (v. 60)
- **#2 Nothing can be an obstacle, even human obligation.**
- “No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.” (v. 62)
- **#3 A disciple cannot delay accomplishing the good that Christ demands.**

We are called to be Ambassadors for Christ

- “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. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (2 Cor. 5:20-21)
- **Prerequisites**
- **Requirements**
- Duties
- Privileges





What are the **Prerequisites** for Ambassadorship?

- **Be a citizen of the native country while living in a foreign country**
- **“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ...”**
(Phil. 3:20)
- The moment I declare citizenship to a foreign country you can no longer be the native country’s ambassador.
 - **“You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.”** (Jn. 8:23-24)



What are the **Prerequisites** for Ambassadorship?

➤ **To Represent the King**

- You do not push your own agenda
- You must conform to the King's vision
- We represent the King when we make ourselves like the King.
 - **“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (Jn. 13:34-35)**

What are the **Prerequisites** for Ambassadorship?

➤ **To Represent the King**

- EX: St. Paul makes himself a slave of Christ
- “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” (Eph. 4:1-3)





What are the **Requirements** for Ambassadorship?

- **To know the language**
- “I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; 20 and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law... to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.” (1 Cor. 9:19-22)
- It goes without saying that we also need to know our native tongue.

What are the **Requirements** for Ambassadorship?

- **It may require studying**
 - “Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.” (1 Tim. 4:13)
- **To be of high resolve and courageous**
 1. Living as a stranger in a foreign land
 2. Rejection of the message



What are the **Requirements** for Ambassadorship?

3. Feeling alone or isolated

- So he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life." (1 Kings 19:10)

4. Problem between team members

- "...for on the road they had disputed among themselves who would be the greatest." (Mk. 9:34)





Summary

- We are all ambassadors of Christ
- **Prerequisites**
 - Be a citizen of the native country while living in a foreign country
 - To Represent the King
- **Requirements**
 - To know the language
 - It may require studying
 - To be of high resolve and courageous
 1. Living as a stranger in a foreign land
 2. Rejection of the message
 3. Feeling alone or isolated
 4. Problem between team members
 - Part 2 – Duties and Privileges