

April 6, 2022

## God's Ambassador

[2 Corinthians 5:16-21](#)

*<sup>16</sup> So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: <sup>19</sup> that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

I love the connectional church! I love being a part of the connectional church. Those connections bring us closer in relationship with God, whether they are in our very own church community or across the globe.

Such an opportunity came before me during a Volunteer-In-Mission trip to Vietnam a few years ago. Our team's work included repair and renovation to a small school in the village of Da Lat. Our team had a very proficient interpreter, however those we worked along side of spoke little or no English. During the two weeks' time we depended on hand signals and nods and lots of smiles.

As the work time was nearing an end, we pushed to finish a floor for one of the classrooms. The work required squatting or kneeling and continuously brushing the concrete to a smooth finish so that stones surfaced to a smooth finish.

The native Vietnamese seemed to work effortlessly. The Americans really exerted effort to keep up. I remember vividly being on my knees, when I felt a hand on my shoulder. One of the young men had taken off his flip-flops and through gesture placed his shoes under my knees as I worked.

I was so humbled, I held back tears...no words were spoken. At that very moment I realized his gift to me. Acceptance was as important as the generosity. Seconds later he was gone. I looked across the room and made eye contact with a young Vietnamese woman as she mouthed the words "thank you."

***Prayer:*** *Dear Gracious Heavenly God, guide us to be your ambassadors each day and in all ways to reflect your love and light. Open our hearts to love one another as you love us. Amen.*

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