



Working Out Our Faith

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.

– 2 Corinthians 5:20 NIV

The sinners we were, we are no more. Where there was death and sin, there is life and grace. Jesus loved us and saved us while we were still sinners (Romans 5:8). We have been given salvation, both for now and in eternity, and hope that one day Jesus will escort us into the New Heaven and New Earth.

So what is our role now? Once we are saved, what is our job? We can't get more salvation because it is completed in Jesus within us. We can't get more love because God's entire heart was lavished on us through His Son. So what are we suppose to do now?

Personally, we are to continue growing in our relationship with Jesus. Just like we can't be "more married" yet we continue trying to make our devotion to each other fresh and complete. It is the same with our relationship to God. In love. In devotion. In obedience. We are to feed our soul like we feed our bodies and minds, as well as, watching what goes in and out. We are to stay close to God so that we hear Him. We are to study His Word that we might know Him more each day. But most Christians I know already understand this. They may not do it, but they know what they should do.

But what is our job to the world? To others?

A great devotion book by O.J. Hawkins called, *The Believer's Code* has a great way of looking at it.

"Effective U.S. ambassadors have mastered the art of communication. They are in constant, daily communication with the state department, and they regularly communicate with leaders of the nation where they serve. In most situations, ambassadors are bilingual, speaking both the language of home and the native language of the country where they are serving. And these effective communicators know not only how to word their thoughts carefully but also how to listen to what is being said – and not said.

"Now, if we are to be effective ambassadors for Christ, we ourselves must be in constant, daily communication with our King and Lord: we must speak as well as listen to him. Then we must communicate his will, his instructions, and his commands to those whom we live.

"If we aren't effective communicators for our Lord, we have fallen short of Our Calling and our task."

Some, possibly most, would see this as two different commands – inward and outward. But we should see only one that both aids and reflects the other. When we are not in a vibrant relationship with Jesus, it shows in the way we conduct ourselves as "ambassadors". We tend to see the world through our lens of self-righteousness where it is more about me than about God. Yet those who are living in a vibrant relationship with Jesus shows in how they reflect Him directly to those in need.

From My Heart,

Billy