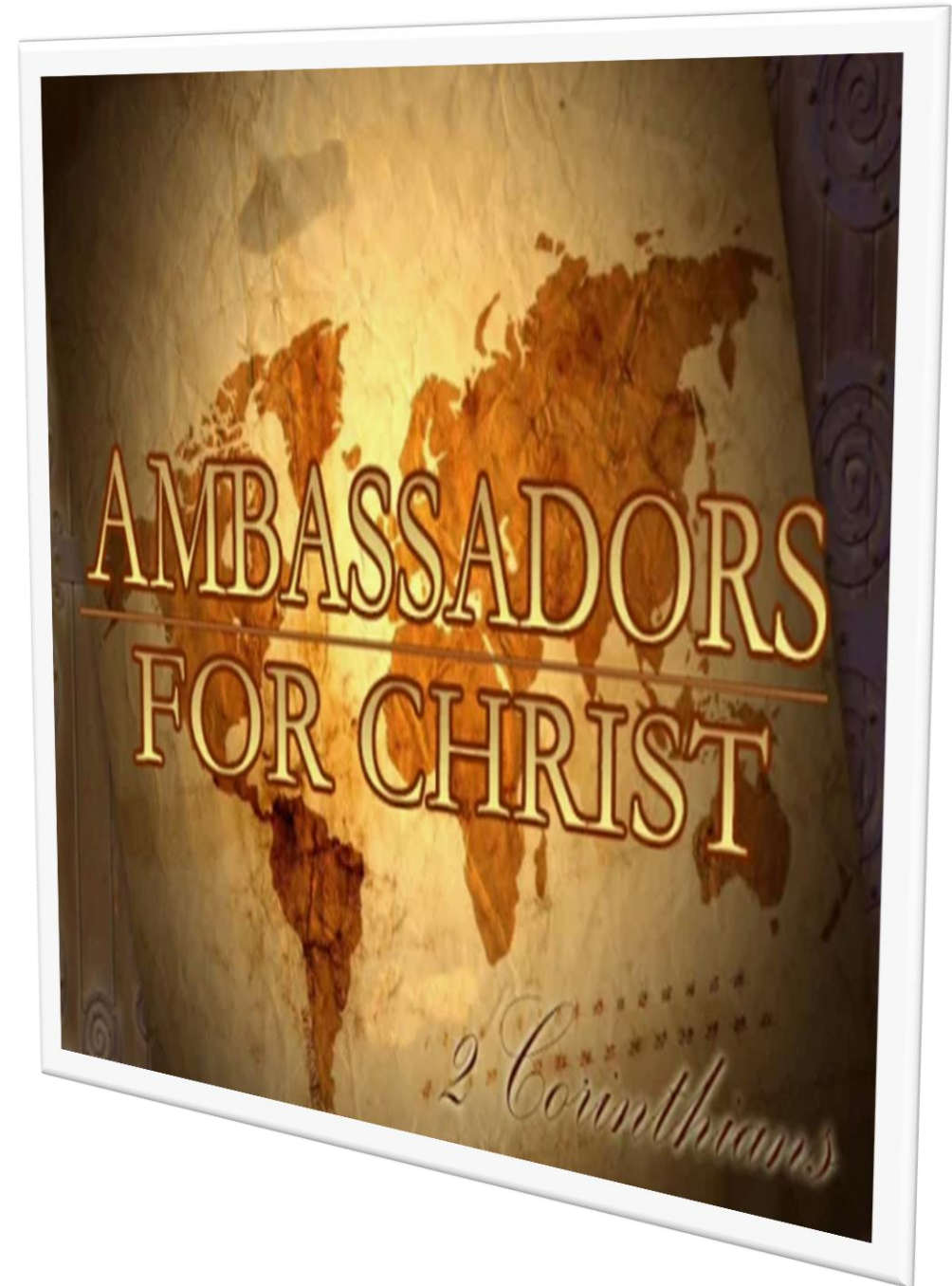




# ***AKTIEWE AMBASSADEUR*** ***ACTIVE AMBASSADOR***

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*“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).*





## **Ambassador: Definition**

**1:** *an official envoy especially: a diplomatic agent of the highest rank accredited to a foreign government or sovereign as the resident representative of his or her own government or sovereign or appointed for a special and often temporary diplomatic assignment: “She's the American ambassador to Italy.”*

**2a:** *an authorized representative or messenger*

*(Merriam-Webster, 2024)*



## **Ambassador: Origin**

**Ambactus** (am-bak-tus) is a Latin word that has two meanings:

1. A messenger.
2. A servant who is hired out by their master.



# **Characteristics of an Ambassador**

- *Knowledgeable*
- *Wise*
- *Strong Character*

# **Eienskappe van 'n Ambassadeur**

- *Goeie Kennis*
- *Wysheid*
- *Sterk Karakter*



# ***Called to be Ambassadors for Christ***

***II Corinthians 5:20 (NKJV):*** “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.”



# Geroep tot Ambassadeurskap van Christus

**II KORINTIËRS 5:20 (AFR53):** “Ons tree dan op as gesante om Christus wil, asof God deur ons vermaan. Ons bid julle om Christus wil: Laat julle met God versoen.



# Who Am I? What do I represent?

- Deception (False teaching)
- Evil world (Is God not Good?)
- Resentment
- LOST

## God's View

- Life of Truth
- Saved by Grace (Through Jesus Christ)
- Saved for good works, not because of it
- New creation (Spirit filled and led)

- Self-Salvation (DIY)
- Based on works
- Own opinions of the Bible

## World View

## My View

- Living in the world (accepting secular world views)
- Lust of the flesh (Not Spirit filled)



## **Saved by Grace**

**Ephesians 2:8-9 (AMP):** “For it is by grace [God’s remarkable compassion and favor drawing you to Christ] that you have been saved [actually delivered from judgment and given eternal life] through faith. And this [salvation] is not of yourselves [not through your own effort], but it is the [undeserved, gracious] gift of God; not as a result of [your] works [nor your attempts to keep the Law], so that no one will [be able to] boast or take credit in any way [for his salvation].”



## **Saved by Grace**

**Ephesians 2:8-9 (NKJV):** *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”*

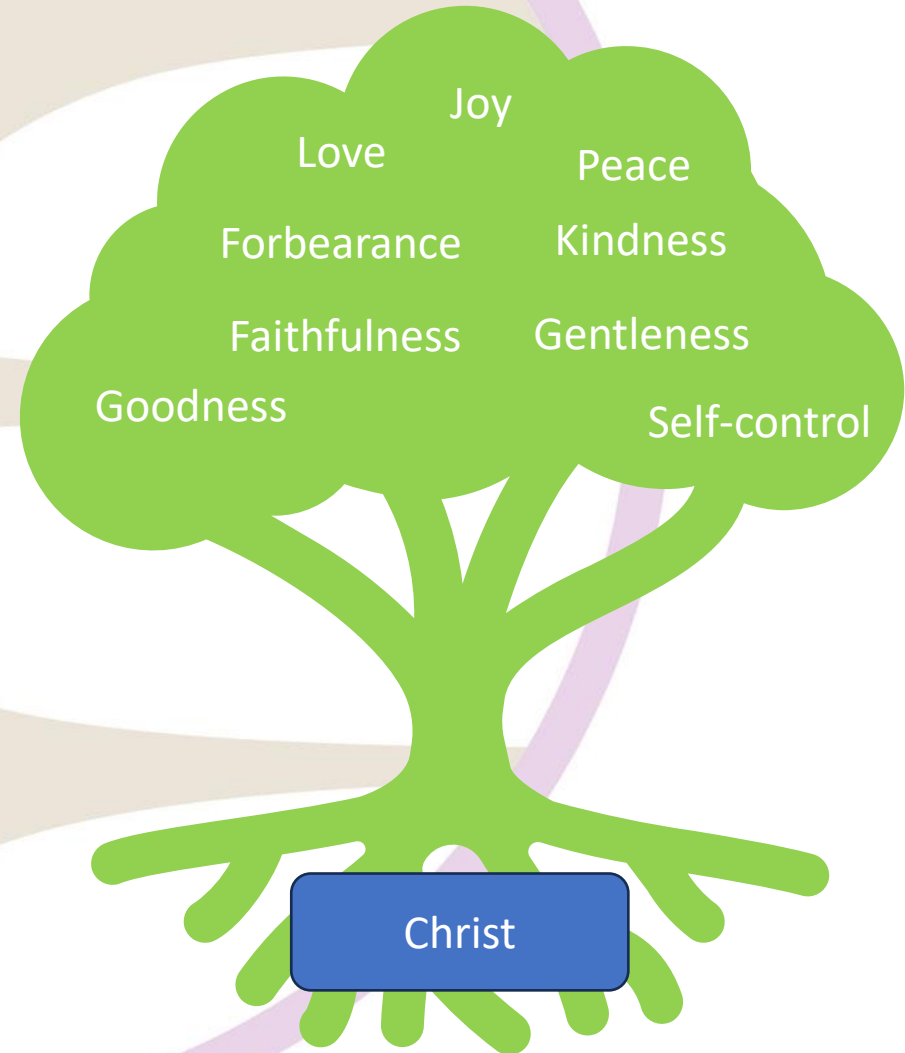
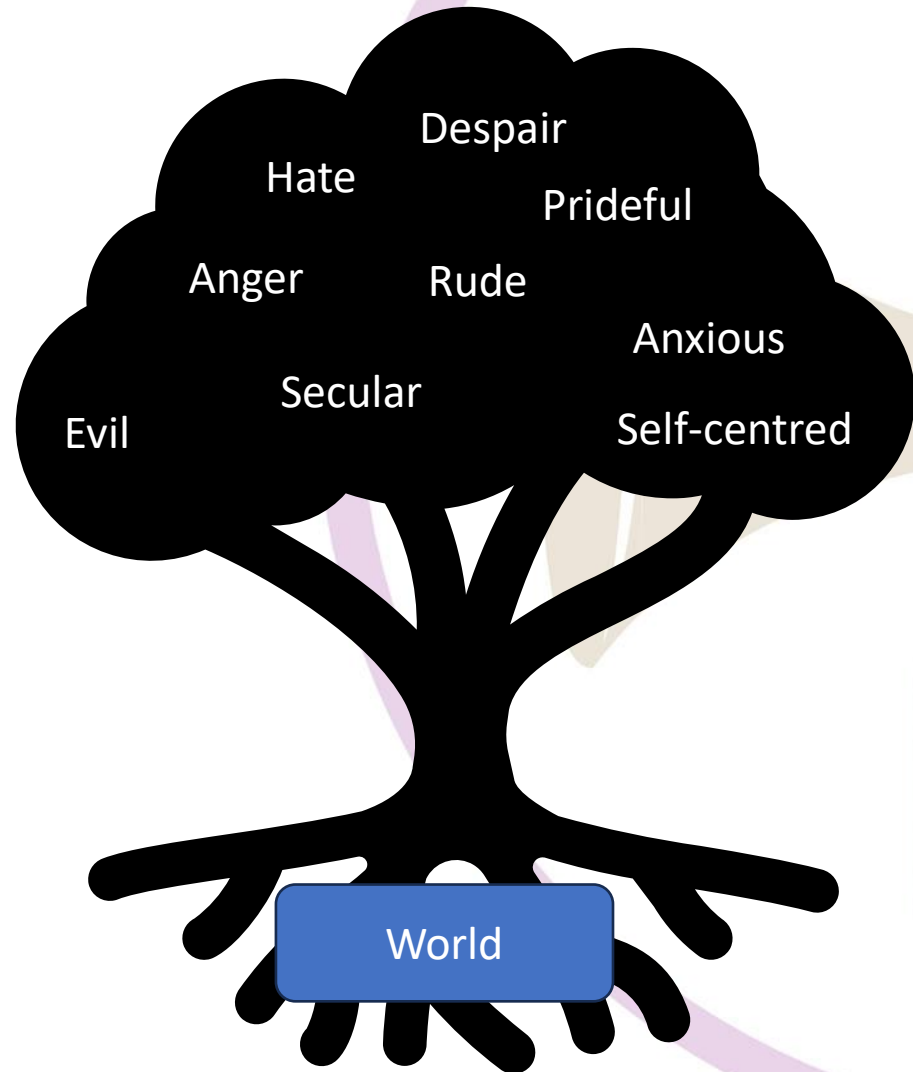


## **Deur Genade Gered**

**EFÉSIËRS 2:8-10 (AFR53):** “Want uit genade is julle gered, deur die geloof, en dit nie uit julleself nie: dit is die gawe van God; nie uit die werke nie, sodat niemand mag roem nie. Want ons is sy maaksel, geskape in Christus Jesus tot goeie werke wat God voorberei het, sodat ons daarin kan wandel.”



# What Fruits do I Produce?





## **Rooted in Christ**

**John 15:5-11 (NKJV):** *"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples."*



## **Rooted in Christ**

**John 15:5-11 (NKJV):** *“As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.*”



# Keeping the Faith

- *How do I keep the faith?*
  - *Be Rooted in Christ (Be reborn, Spirit filled and led)*
  - *Look to God, lean not on your own understanding*
  - *Seek the kingdom of God first and foremost (ALWAYS)*
- *What examples are there from the bible that teaches us what it means to trust in the Lord even in bad times?*
  - *Joseph*
  - *Job*
  - *David*
  - *Paul*



# ***Persistent Faith, God's Favor in Adversity***

## *Story of Joseph:*

- Outcasted by his own family, sold as a slave*
- God showed him Faithfulness, Favor and Love through it all and Joseph kept the Faith*
- He did not bow down to the adversity of his circumstances; he rose above it through Faith and Trust and Waiting on the Lord*



# ***Persistent Faith, God's Favor in Adversity***

## *Story of Job:*

- Brought to his knees, tested and tried*
- He was unshaken in his trust and faith in God*
- Every time his circumstances tried to corrupt his mind, he reaffirmed God's will above his own, God's sovereignty, God's Faithfulness and God's Love.*



# Thanks and Praise

## Story of David:

- *Imperfect person, yet close to God's heart*
- *Acknowledged his shortcomings and ran towards God and not from God*
- *He lived his life with Thanks and Praise in good and bad times. Always being grateful for the Grace and Mercy of God and praising His Faithfulness in the Storm*



# ***Serving God Willingly***

*Story of Paul:*

- *He thought he was acting for God's kingdom but was falsely led by his own will and ambitions*
- *First became blind to himself to truly see God (Literally and figuratively)*
- *He willingly went through immense suffering for God's Glory*
- *He was persistent in his Faith*



# **Serving God Willingly**

**1 Pet 5:1-2** *Therefore, I strongly urge the elders among you [pastors, spiritual leaders of the church], as a fellow elder and as an eyewitness [called to testify] of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory that is to be revealed: Shepherd and guide and protect the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not [motivated] for shameful gain, but with wholehearted enthusiasm;*



## **Serving God Willingly**

**1 Pet 5:3-4** ...not lording it over those assigned to your care [do not be arrogant or overbearing], but be examples [of Christian living] to the flock [set a pattern of integrity for your congregation]. And when the Chief Shepherd (Christ) appears, you will receive the [conqueror's] unfading crown of glory.



# **Serving God Willingly**

**1 Pet 5:5-6** Likewise, you younger men [of lesser rank and experience], be subject to your elders [seek their counsel]; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another [tie on the servant's apron], for God is opposed to the proud [the disdainful, the presumptuous, and He defeats them], but He gives grace to the humble. Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God [set aside self-righteous pride], so that He may exalt you [to a place of honour in His service] at the appropriate time,



# **Serving God Willingly**

**1 Pet 5:7-8** ..casting all your cares [all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares about you [with deepest affection, and watches over you very carefully]. Be sober [well balanced and self-disciplined], be alert and cautious at all times. That enemy of yours, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion [fiercely hungry], seeking someone to devour.



## **Serving God Willingly**

**1 Pet 5:9-11** *But resist him, be firm in your faith [against his attack—rooted, established, immovable], knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being experienced by your brothers and sisters throughout the world. [You do not suffer alone.] After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace [who imparts His blessing and favor], who called you to His own eternal glory in Christ, will Himself complete, confirm, strengthen, and establish you [making you what you ought to be]. To Him be dominion (power, authority, sovereignty) forever and ever. Amen.*



# **God's Promises, God's Word**

- **You are fearfully and wonderfully made**  
(Genesis 1:26; Psalm 139:13-14)
- **You are loved beyond measure**  
(John 3:16; 1 John 4:19)
- **You are saved, free, no longer slaves**  
(John 8:36, Romans 6:1-7)
- **You are a new creation in Christ**  
(2 Corinthians 5:17)
- **If you seek God with all your heart, you will find Him**  
(Jeremiah 29:13; Isaiah 55:6; Proverbs 8:17)



# **God's Promises, God's Word**

- **Those who wait on the Lord will renew their strength**  
(Isiah 40:31)
- **God will never forsake you, do not be afraid**  
(Deuteronomy 31:6-8; Joshua 1:9; Hebrews 13:5)
- **Nothing can separate you from God's love**  
(Romans 8:38-39)
- **More than conquerors, everything is already won**  
(John 16:23; Romans 8:31-37)
- **He that is in us, is greater that he who is in the world**  
(1 John 4:4)



# God's Promises, God's Word

**Jeremiah 29:11 (AMP):** *“For I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you,” says the LORD, ‘plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.’”*



## ***Called for a Time such as This***

***Esther 4:14 (NKJV):*** “For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”



## ***Called for a Time such as This***

*The Book of Esther relates how the Jewish people were threatened and at risk of being annihilated. In the face of unsurmountable odds, Esther demonstrated faith by recognizing that God had placed her in the position of queen for a purpose.*

*Courageously, despite the risk to her own life, she chose to obey God's plan and plead for her people before the Persian king.*



## ***Called for a Time such as This***

*A **Clarion Call** is an urgent request for action that is highly clear in its message or directive.*

*God has made his call known to us, if we do not accept the call, He calls the next person to action!*



## **Called and Chosen (1Pet 2:9-10)**

**1 Pet 2:9-10 (NKJV):** “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.”



## **Geroep en Gekies (1Pet 2:9-10)**

**1 Pet 2:9-10 (AFR53):** “Maar julle is 'n uitverkore geslag, 'n koninklike priesterdom, 'n heilige volk, 'n volk as eiendom verkry, om te verkondig die deugde van Hom wat julle uit die duisternis geroep het tot sy wonderbare lig. Julle wat vroeër geen volk was nie, maar nou die volk van God is; aan wie toe geen barmhartigheid bewys is nie, maar nou bewys is.”



## **Geroep en Gekies (1Pet 2:9-10)**

**1 Pet 2:9-10 (Die Boodskap):** “God het julle in die besonder vir Hom gekies. Julle is die mense wat Hy aangestel het sodat die groot Koning, God, op ’n besondere manier en reg gedien kan word. God self het julle sy besondere mense gemaak.

Julle behoort aan Hom en aan Hom alleen. Daarom moet julle die groot en goeie dinge wat Hy vir julle gedoen het, aan almal vertel...



## **Geroep en Gekies (1Pet 2:9-10)**

**1 Pet 2:9-10 (Die Boodskap):** “... Uit die donker van julle sondes het Hy julle geroep om na die helder lig te kom waar Hy is. Voorheen was julle soos boemelaars met wie niemand iets te doen wou hê nie, maar nou is julle God se mense. Julle het voorheen nie geweet wat liefde en goedheid regtig beteken nie, maar julle het by God daardie liefde en goedheid leer ken.”



## **Called and Chosen (1Pet 2:9)**

1. Called to repent, believe in Jesus as the Son of God and to be reborn (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38)
2. Called to be Free (Galatians 5:1; John 8:36, Romans 6:1-7)
3. Called to make disciples (Mathew 28:19-20)
4. Called to seek the Kingdom of God (Mathew 6:33)
5. Called to be ambassadors of Christ (II Corinthians 5:20)
6. Called to persist in (to keep) the faith (Hebrews 10:36-39; Timothy 4:7-8)



# **Be an Ambassador of- and for Christ**

1. *Be Bold and Fearless*
2. *Be rooted fundamentally in Christ and stand on His Word, live by His Truth*
3. *Be Content*
4. *Have Persistent Faith (Spirit filled and Spirit Led)*
5. *Wait on the Lord, be relentless with Prayer*
6. *Seek the Kingdom of God, live by His will, not your own*
7. *Go out and make disciples, step into your Godly calling, share the Good News, Be Christ's light and Love to the World*



## ***Be an Ambassador of- and for Christ***

8. *Be Knowledgeable in the Word of God through deep learning*
9. *Pray for God's Wisdom and practise it*
10. *Always reflect the true Character of Christ (no matter the circumstance) – Fruit of the Spirit*



# Verwysings om te onthou

## **Clarion Call preke:**

- *Saved at Last*
- *Dit gaan oor Jesus*
- *God's representative, God's reputation*
- *Deception Danger*
- *Fruit of the Spirit*
- *Doers of the Word*
- *Get your Priorities Straight*
- *Facing Failure*



# **Hou Moed!**

**JOHANNES 16:33 (AFR53):** “Dit het Ek vir julle gesê, dat julle in My **vrede** kan hê. In die wêreld sal julle verdrukking hê; maar **hou goeie moed**, Ek het die wêreld **oorwin**.”



# Vandag het ek vir jou gebid

“Vandag het ek vir jou gebid, God het gehoor. Ek weet Sy Antwoord was soos altyd: **“Sou ek my kind ooit vergeet?”**”

En het ek gevra vir eerbewyse talryk soos bome in ‘n woud? Nee, vir ander ryker gawes kosbaarder as goud; Sy **Nabyheid** en **Beskerming** soos ‘n mantel elke dag, **Gesondheid**, **Seën** en **Vriendskap**, sonstraal blink en blommeprag. Bowen-al was dit my bede, al voel elkeen soms verward... **Hoop** en **Liefde** in jou lewe en Sy **Vrede** in jou **hart**.”



# ***AKTIEWE AMBASSADEUR*** ***ACTIVE AMBASSADOR***

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*“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).*

