Study Notes: Be an Ambassador

Speaker: Drew Burtis | The Authentic Follower, Session 5 of 5 | June 27, 2025 | The Island

Scripture: John 20:21, John 3:16-17, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Closing Out the Week

Recap - Monday through Thursday walked Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman, the woman caught in adultery, hating your life to save it, and abiding to bear fruit. Today wraps up the final marker.

- To be an authentic follower of Jesus, we share the good news with ____.

Just As I Was Sent

Jesus speaking to his disciples in John 20, after the resurrection, before the ascension.

> *"Peace be with you. Just as the Father has sent me, I also send ____." (John 20:21)*

The Good News Is Twofold

It's Jesus's death and his resurrection - full payment for sin.

> *"God loved the world so much that he sent Jesus, his one and only son, so that everyone who believes in him will not ____, but have eternal life." (John 3:16-17)*

What Is an Ambassador?

Like a U.S. embassy official living in another country and representing the United States there.

- An ambassador is a visible representative of someone that's ____.

Notes:

A Whole New Identity

2 Corinthians 5:17 - a new identity as a follower of Jesus.

> *"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new ____. What is old has passed away, what is new has come."*

Restoring What Sin Broke

Genesis: unbroken fellowship in the garden, broken by sin two chapters later, restored through Christ.

- Because you have your faith and trust in Jesus, you are now an agent of ____.

Notes:

Getting It to the People Closest to You First

Burtis's illustration - if you had the cure, you'd get it to the people closest to you first, then everyone else.

- This is curing the ____ that we all have as mankind - and there's one cure for it: Jesus's death, burial, and resurrection.

The Ambassador's Message

Burtis called this one of his favorite verses in the whole Bible.

> *"God made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in him we would become the ____ of God." (2 Corinthians 5:21)*

Notes:

The Takeaway

- You are now an ambassador for Jesus, a visible representative of someone who is absent - so be convinced and sold out enough to share that good news with conviction, starting with the people in your own circle of influence.

Reflect

1. Burtis defined an ambassador as "a visible representative of someone that's absent" - the way you live and treat people is now what represents Jesus, since he isn't physically here. Who in your daily life would say your actions represent him well, and who might not see that yet?

2. In the cure-for-cancer illustration, Burtis said he'd get the cure to the people closest to him first, then to everyone else in his circle. Who's the first person in your own circle of influence you'd want to share the good news with this week?

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3. He said your motive should shift from "how can I keep the good news to myself" to "how can I give it to everybody I interact with." What's one specific conversation this week where you could actually make that shift?