

# CHRISTLIKE CONVERSATIONS

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Living as Ambassadors for Christ in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

# The Audience of Jesus

Who is almost always present, even if not mentioned during Jesus ministry?

- **Matt 15:10-11** - 10 After Jesus called the crowd to Him, He said to them, "Hear and understand. 11 *It is not what enters into the mouth that defiles the man, but what proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the man.*"
- **Mark 5:21** - 21 When Jesus had crossed over again in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around Him; and so He stayed by the seashore.
- **Luke 5:1** - 1 Now it happened that while the crowd was pressing around Him and listening to the word of God, He was standing by the lake of Gennesaret;
- **Luke 16:17** - 17 Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place; and there was a large crowd of His disciples, and a great throng of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon, 18 who had come to hear Him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were being cured.

# Schedule

Class	Text	Topic	Teacher
#1	Various	Introduction	RYAN
#2	Various	Jesus and the Crowd	RYAN
#3	Various	Jesus and the Outsiders	BEN
#4	John 4:1-26	Samaritan Woman: Jesus and the Thirsty	BEN
#5	John 4:1-26	Samaritan Woman: Jesus and the Thirsty Cont.	BEN
#6	Mark 5:1-20	Demoniac: Jesus and the Messed Up	RYAN
#7	Matthew 19:16-25	Rich Young Ruler: Jesus and the Really Good	RYAN
#8	Mark 2:1-13	Paralyzed Man: Jesus and the Determined	RYAN
#9	Mark 9:14-29	Demoniac's Father: Jesus and the Doubting	BEN
#10	John 3:1-21	Nicodemus: Jesus and the Curious	BEN
#11	Luke 5:1-11	Peter: Jesus and the Unworthy	BEN
#12	Various	Jesus and the Opposition	RYAN
#13	2 Corinthians 1-5	Conclusion: Ambassadors for Christ	BEN

# Instructions to Teach

## Are we supposed to spread the Gospel?

- **John 17:16-19** - *16 They are not of the world, just as I [Christ] am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. 18 As You sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.*
- **Matt 28:18-20** - *18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*
- **2 Tim 4:1-2** – *1 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: 2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.*
- **Rom 10:14-15** - *14 How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? 15 How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!"*

# Instructions to Teach

## But those Commands are Just for Apostles and Preachers, Right?

- Following the stoning of Stephen we read in **Acts 8:1**, *"And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles."* Following this, we see these same believers (all encompassing) in **Acts 8:4** *"Now those who were scattered went about preaching (euangelizomenoi) the word."* They went about sharing the gospel with others.
- **Col 4:5-6** - *5 Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. 6 Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.*
- **2 Cor 5:18-20** - *18 Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.*
- **Additional Passages:** Matthew 5:14-16, 1 Peter 3:15, Philippians 2:14-16, 1 Peter 2:9

# Learning From the Master

**John 13:14-16** - *14 If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. 16 Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him.*

## What do we Hope to learn from the master in this class?

1. Learn that Jesus was always prepared to teach. He did so:

In the Synagogue, At a Well, Getting Off a Boat, In the Temple, On the Side of a Mountain, At a Meal, After a Meal, Traveling Between Cities, At Peter's House, At Lazarus House, At Matthew's House, In the Midst of Friends, In the Midst of Opposition, etc.

2. Learn that Jesus used different approaches for different people and situations.
3. Learn how Jesus used God's Word and only did God's will in His interactions.
4. See the love and compassion that Jesus had for the lost.
5. Remember that I once was lost.

# Evangelizing Like Christ in My Life

## What do we Hope to Change in our Life to Be more like Christ?

1. Learn that Jesus was always prepared to teach.
  - Treat every aspect of my life as an evangelism opportunity, and prepare myself with God's Word. (1 Pet 3:15)
2. Learn that Jesus used different approaches for different people and situations.
  - Deepen my understanding of how Jesus shared the Gospel in specific situations. (Mt. 4:19)
  - Develop better perception of needs of people and how to help them (Mt. 9:36)
3. Learn how Jesus used God's Word and only did God's will in His interactions.
  - Imitate Christ by practicing Gospel ministry like Him. (Mt. 10:24-25)
4. See the love and compassion that Jesus had for the lost.
  - Cultivate a more robust, Christlike prayer life for Gospel ministry. (Mt. 11:25-30)
  - Develop better perception of needs of people and how to help them (Mt. 9:36)
5. Remember that I once was lost.
  - See myself as Nicodemus, as the woman at the well, as Legion, as the paralytic, etc. before Jesus saved me. Be humble in how I view myself, and how I treat others.

# Christ's Main Focus?

Even though there were many different places, different approaches, and different people, was there a main focus in Christ's interactions?

- Jesus came to give life - John 10:10
- Jesus came to seek and save the lost - Luke 19:10
- Jesus came to save sinners - 1 Tim 1:15
- Jesus came to reconcile men to God - 2 Cor 5:18-20

This is also our purpose for teaching. As ambassadors for Christ we are to bring the word of reconciliation so that the lost would be saved, and have life in Christ.



# JESUS AND THE CROWDS

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Christlike Conversations

Lesson #2

# Evangelizing Like Christ in My Life

## What do we Hope to Change in our Life to Be more like Christ?

- Treat every aspect of my life as an evangelism opportunity, and prepare myself with God's Word. (1 Pet 3:15)
- Deepen my understanding of how Jesus shared the Gospel in specific situations. (Mt. 4:19)
- Develop better perception of needs of people and how to help them (Mt. 9:36)
- Imitate Christ by practicing Gospel ministry like Him. (Mt. 10:24-25)
- Cultivate a more robust, Christlike prayer life for Gospel ministry. (Mt. 11:25-30)
- See myself as Nicodemus, as the woman at the well, as Legion, as the paralytic, etc. before Jesus saved me. Be humble in how I view myself, and how I treat others.

# The Audience of Jesus

Who is almost always present, even if not mentioned during Jesus ministry?

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- **Mark 5:21** - 21 When Jesus had crossed over again in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around Him; and so He stayed by the seashore.
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# Jesus and the Crowd

## The Crowd in the scriptures:

- The crowd, or crowds is mentioned 121 times in the gospels (NASB). By comparison, Peter, and John are mentioned 92 and 105 times in the gospels respectively.

## Where are we most likely to have an impact on Crowds?

Bible Classes      School

Families            Social Media

Work                 Sports

## How did Jesus View these Crowds according to Mark 6:34?

- When Jesus went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things.

# Jesus Teaches: John 6:24-40

24 So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, they themselves got into the small boats, and came to Capernaum seeking Jesus. 25 When they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, "Rabbi, when did You get here?"

26 Jesus answered them and said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. 27 Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal." 28 Therefore they said to Him, "What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?" 29 Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent." 30 So they said to Him, "What then do You do for a sign, so that we may see, and believe You? What work do You perform? 31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'HE GAVE THEM BREAD OUT OF HEAVEN TO EAT.'" 32 Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread out of heaven, but it is My Father who gives you the true bread out of heaven. 33 For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world." 34 Then they said to Him, "Lord, always give us this bread."

35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. 36 But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 39 This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. 40 For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."

# Having Christlike Conversations

- 27 *"Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life"...*
  - **Make conversations about spiritual things (Romans 8:5).**
- 27 *"Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal.*
  - **Rely on scripture given by Jesus (and by extension his apostles) and approved by God (2 Tim 3:16-17).**
- 28... *"What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?"* 29 *Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent."*
  - **Be prepared to answer questions.**
  - **Direct people to Christ.**
- 30 *So they said to Him, "What then do You do for a sign, so that we may see, and believe You? What work do You perform? 31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'HE GAVETH THEM BREAD OUT OF HEAVEN TO EAT.'"* 32 *Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread out of heaven, but it is My Father who gives you the true bread out of heaven. 33 For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world."* 34 *Then they said to Him, "Lord, always give us this bread."*
  - **Be patient.**
  - **Point to an eternal result. (6:35-40)**

# Jesus Teaches: Matt 5-7

## A. THE "CITIZENS" OF THE KINGDOM...

1. Their character and blessedness - Mt 5:3-12
2. Their relation to the world - Mt 5:13-16

## B. THE "RIGHTEOUSNESS" OF THE KINGDOM...

1. In contrast to the "traditional interpretations and applications" of the Law - Mt 5:17-48
2. With respect to man's relation to God – Mt 6:1-33
3. With respect to man's relation to man - Mt 7:1-12

## C. THE "EXHORTATION TO ENTER" THE KINGDOM...

1. The "beginning" of the way - Mt 7:13-14
2. The "progress" along the way - Mt 7:15-20
3. The "end" of the way - Mt 7:21-27
  1. Contrasting "sayers" with "doers" 21-23
  2. Contrasting "hearers" with "doers" 24-27

# Jesus Teaches: Mark 4

*4:2 And He was teaching them many things in parables, and was saying to them in His teaching...*

Jesus uses the Parable of the sower, but the lesson seems difficult to the hearer.  
Why?

*- 4:13 And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How will you understand all the parables?"*



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# JESUS AND THE OUTSIDERS

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Christlike Conversations

Lesson #3

In order to participate in class activities today **you must be sitting within speaking distance** to one or more people.

Be ready to discuss the following question...

Who were some people in the life of Jesus that He rejected or in some way repelled?

# Course Goals

- Deepen understanding of how Jesus shared the Gospel in specific situations (Mt. 4:19)
- Develop better perception of needs of people and how to help them (Mt. 9:36)
- Imitate Christ by practicing Gospel ministry like Him. (Mt. 10:24-25)
- Cultivate a more robust, Christlike prayer life for Gospel ministry. (Mt. 11:25-30)

**Who were some people in the life of Jesus that He rejected or in some way repelled?**



# The People of Jesus

Who are some specific people in Jesus' ministry that fit in one of the following?

- **Diseased**
- **Sinners**
- **Women**
- **Ethnos**

- Why might it have been difficult to compassionately reach out to this person?
- What specific actions did Jesus take / describe to hold up this 'outsider' as someone significant?
- How did the actions of Jesus toward this 'outsider' impact his / her life?

# Loving Outsiders Like Jesus Did

- **Enter 'their' house and / or share in meals.**
  - Levi's Dinner Party, Zaccheus' Repentance
- **Give greater thanks for grace received.**
  - Sinful Woman, Tax Collector at Temple
- **Look for, admire, and praise insignificant people in big places.**
  - Centurion, Samaritan Leper, Zaccheus, Mistreated Widow
- **Involve yourself in the grief and pain of others.**
  - Leper, Bleeding Woman, Nain Widow, Women of Jerusalem
- **Accept help and give responsibility.**
  - Supporting Women, First Witnesses of Resurrection
- **Show patience and extend forgiveness.**
  - Samaritan Rejection, Lost Parables, "Father Forgive"



# The Ambassador's Prayer List

## *Outsiders*

- **People:** *Who are some outsiders I can and should influence with the Gospel?*
- **Knowledge:** *What information am I missing to be able to influence outsiders?*
- **Wisdom:** *What complications might arise for me in reaching outsiders?*
- **Courage:** *What fears do I have in connecting with outsiders?*
- **Love:** *Who do I struggle to care about?*

# JESUS AND THE THIRSTY

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Christlike Conversations

Lesson #4



# Profile of the Samaritan Woman

*Who is like the Samaritan Woman in your world today?*

# How Jesus Spoke with the Thirsty

1. He “had to go” into the (uncomfortable) place where she was (4)
2. Disregarded racial and social barriers (9)
3. Used ordinary object to talk about spiritual & Scriptural concepts (10)
4. Discerned natural desires and appealed to their deeper reality (10-15)
5. Kindly yet directly exposed personal sins (16-18)
6. Allowed her to (somewhat) dictate the conversation (19-26)
7. Unafraid to openly discuss matters of religious debate (21-24)
8. Answered dichotomous religious propositions with independent truth (21)
9. Directly pointed out and corrected religious failure and false doctrine (22)
10. Focus on the Father and genuine relationship with him (23-24)
11. Goal of leading to the source of the satisfaction she sought (26)

# Working the Harvest (4.27-45)

**The Woman in the City**

**The Disciples with the People**

**Jesus among All**

*Did the Woman come to faith  
in the Christ?*

# The Ambassador's Prayer List

## *The Thirsty*

- **People:** *What 'thirsty' people do I know who do not know the Lord?*
- **Knowledge:** *How do I need to improve my Bible knowledge to be able to appeal to the thirsty?*
- **Wisdom:** *How can I improve my understanding of the needs and experiences of the thirsty?*
- **Courage:** *What fears do I have in connecting with the thirsty?*
- **Love:** *Why do I struggle to care about the thirsts of others?*



# JESUS AND THE MESSED UP

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Christlike Conversations

Lesson #6

# Jesus and the Messed Up

**What details do we have about the life of the man in Mark 5?**

**Who might we meet that is “messed up” today?**

# How Jesus Interacted with the Messed Up

- He went to a place that might have been uncomfortable to him (vs 1)
- Did not flee from the man even though it might have been a fearful and uncomfortable situation (vs2,6,7,8)
- Jesus finds out his identity, and is determined to use God's power to transform it (vs 8-9)
- Jesus takes the demon out of the man, even though it was most likely a terrible and painful action (1:26, 9:26)
- What legion becomes is the opposite of what he was (vs 7, 15, 18).
- Jesus does not win a popularity contest (vs. 17)
- Jesus is willing to go across the sea to reach a single soul in need (vs 17)

By the power of the Gospel, changed people, change people (19-20)

# JESUS AND THE REALLY GOOD

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Christlike Conversations

Lesson #7

# Jesus and the Really Good

**What question does the Rich Young Ruler bring to Jesus?**

**What does this question say about the Rich Young Ruler?**

In an area of the world where so many proclaim Christianity, this may be the most common “type” of person we come into contact with.

# How Jesus Interacted with the Really Good

- He acknowledged the word as truth and the standard by which to live.
- He built a common foundation with the rich young ruler which stems from God's word.
- He loved Him.
- He pointed out the error of even the really good.
- Jesus knew his personal life and forced him to choose his treasure.
- Jesus understood that not all will listen to the difficult truth.
- Jesus let him walk away.

Why did the rich young ruler walk away?

# JESUS AND THE DETERMINED

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Christlike Conversations

Lesson #8

# Jesus and the Determined

**Who all are mentioned as being present?**

**What shows us how the determination of these men?**

**Do determined people need Jesus?**



# How Jesus Interacted with the Really Good

- Jesus recognized their faith by their action.
- Jesus looks at the man and recognizes that his greatest need is forgiveness of sins.
- Jesus acts according to God's plan knowing that it is likely that opposition will arise.
- Jesus proves he has authority to forgive sins.
- Jesus asks the man to
- Those that were there, glorified God because of Jesus actions.

# JESUS AND THE DOUBTING

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Christlike Conversations

Lesson #9

In order to participate in class activities today **you must be sitting within speaking distance** to one or more people.

Be ready to discuss the following starter question...

What are some of the reasons that people wrestle with Doubt?

# Course Goals

- Deepen understanding of how Jesus shared the Gospel in specific situations (Mt. 4:19)
- Develop better perception of needs of people and how to help them (Mt. 9:36)
- Imitate Christ by practicing Gospel ministry like Him. (Mt. 10:24-25)
- Cultivate a more robust, Christlike prayer life for Gospel ministry. (Mt. 11:25-30)

**What are some of the reasons  
that people wrestle with Doubt?**



# Profile of the Demoniac's Father

*What would be difficult and discouraging about this situation?*

# Obstacles to Faith for a Father

- Trials of illness for son and family
- Likely personal guilt and shame in community (see John 9:2)
- Prolonged nature of demonic influence
- Child suffering = parent suffering
- Failure of disciples / 'believers'
- "Arguing" likely intended to discredit abilities of Christ
- Delayed help from Jesus = no power nor pity?



# Profile of the Demoniac's Father

*What would be difficult and discouraging about this situation?*

*How do people you know face similar challenges to faith today?*

# How Jesus Helped the Doubting

- 19 He said Hard Truth
- 20 He drew Close to the challenge
- 21 He demanded Confession of difficulty
- 23 He pushed for Prayer
- 25 He did his work Intimately
- 25 He spoke the Word of healing

# Dealing with Doubt and Developing Faith

1. Failures of others and trials of circumstance CAN be overcome through connection with Christ.
2. Faith is a spectrum not zero-sum.
3. Prayer is both an expression of faith and a path toward faith.
4. Disciples sometimes have more doubts than the doubting.

# The Ambassador's Prayer List

## *The Doubting*

- **People:**
- **Knowledge:**
- **Wisdom:**
- **Courage:**
- **Love:**

# JESUS AND THE CURIOUS

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Christlike Conversations

Lesson #10

# Course Goals

- Deepen understanding of how Jesus shared the Gospel in specific situations (Mt. 4:19)
- Develop better perception of needs of people and how to help them (Mt. 9:36)
- Imitate Christ by practicing Gospel ministry like Him. (Mt. 10:24-25)
- Cultivate a more robust, Christlike prayer life for Gospel ministry. (Mt. 11:25-30)



# Profile of Nicodemus

*What does the text explicitly reveal or in some way imply to us about Nicodemus?*

*(E.g. Status, Lifestyle, Personality, Background, Worldview, Heart, etc.)*



# Profile of Nicodemus

- Pharisee—highly religious, conservative views
- Ruler of the Jews, Teacher of Israel
- Knowledgeable of Scriptures
- (likely) Older
- Comes from the darkness / night
- Knowledgeable / respectful of Jesus
- Believer impressed by signs
- Interested in investigating Spiritual concepts
- Confused by Jesus' statements
- Worldly & carnal in thinking

# Problems with Nicodemus (And People Like Him Today)

- Fearful (?)
- Intellectual Arrogance
- Ignorance
- Fleshly & Worldly
- Unbelieving (though Religious / Spiritual)

# How Jesus Challenged the Curious

1. Immediate and ongoing attention / emphasis on Kingdom
2. Points out inadequacy of previous / Human efforts for spirituality
  - Jesus begins general (“unless one”)
  - Then moves specifically to Nicodemus (“I say to you”)
3. Calls for faith, transformation, and real commitment to God
4. Reiterates and further explains truth after question
5. Stays focused on issue at hand, not distracted
6. Uses Scripture, Testimony, and Story in argumentation
  - “water...spirit” allusion to Ezekiel 36:25-26
  - Highlights his testimony of things above
  - Utilizes story of Moses’ Serpent to point to the Cross
7. Strongly contrasts Flesh/Spirit, Earthly/Heavenly
8. Ends teaching with the Love and Judgment of God in the Cross

# Challenging the Curious Like Jesus Did

1. Recognize carnality and worldliness even in 'spiritual' discussions.
2. Move away from theoretical and abstract to make the Gospel personal.
3. Do not ignore questions but redirect attention to the things that are essential.
4. Scripture must always be the foundation of conversation (even if not known, recognized, or completely understood by hearer).
5. Keep emphasis on the Life Commitment demanded by the Kingdom and Cross.

# JESUS AND THE UNWORTHY

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Christlike Conversations

Lesson #11

# Course Goals

- Deepen understanding of how Jesus shared the Gospel in specific situations (Mt. 4:19)
- Develop better perception of needs of people and how to help them (Mt. 9:36)
- Imitate Christ by practicing Gospel ministry like Him. (Mt. 10:24-25)
- Cultivate a more robust, Christlike prayer life for Gospel ministry. (Mt. 11:25-30)



# Profile of Peter

*What does this text reveal or in some way imply to us about Peter?*



# Profile of Peter

- Fisherman
- Hard-working
- Some familiarity with Jesus
- Disappointing night before
- Skeptical but obedient
- Perceptive of Jesus' nature
- Fearful & insecure
- Cognizant of sinfulness

# Understanding the Unworthy

*What are some of the reasons that people may feel unworthy today?*

*(Especially when they interact with Jesus)*

*How do people typically cope with feelings of unworthiness?*

# How Jesus Strengthened the Unworthy

1. He persisted in forming a relationship with Peter. (See John 1; Mark 1)
2. He chose to be close to Peter.
3. He spoke about things of God in Peter's presence.
4. He commanded Peter something that did not make sense.
5. He did something good for Peter that made Peter feel small.
6. He calmed Peter's fears with words of comfort.
7. He gave Peter a new sense of direction and purpose.

# Strengthening the Unworthy Like Jesus Did

1. **DO NOT** ignore or pretend like someone is worthy of God's love based on their merit—none of us are.
2. **ALWAYS** affirm God's worth-giving love for all.
3. Proactively reach out ('touch') people who are neglected, ignored, rejected by others. (5:12-16)
4. Acknowledge sin and related problems, but point to the solution of Christ's redemptive authority. (5:17-26)
5. Demonstrate value you place on others by sharing in their life—meals, etc. (5:27-32)

# JESUS AND THE OPPOSITION

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Christlike Conversations

Lesson #12

# Jesus in the Midst of Opposition

Please Read the Following and be Ready to Discuss:

Mark 2:15-17

Mark 12:13-17

Mark 12:18-27

John 2:13-22

Some Thoughts you May Consider During Your Discussion (not all apply):

- Who all is present?
- What is known of the opposition? How do we know this?
- Who initiates the “confrontation”?
- What is the intent of the “confrontation” (both sides)?
- Is any scripture presented?
- What is the result?

# How Jesus Interacted with the Opposition

- Jesus used opposition to teach (Mark 2:15-17).
- Jesus recognized and defended, without partiality, those who humbly sought truth (Mark 2:15-17).
- Jesus did not get caught up in “Worldly Issues” (Mark 12:13-17).
- Jesus belief and action was in accordance with the scripture, and He used that scripture to show error (Mark 12:18-27).
- Jesus was concerned about the details of the scripture (Mark 12:18-27).
- Jesus was angry for the right reasons (John 2:13-22).
- Jesus used the resurrection to prove His authority (John 2:13-22).
- Jesus found the heart of the issue, and exposed those who were not seeking the truth (Mark 3:1-5, John 2:13-22).

# AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST

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Christlike Conversations

Lesson #13



Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

**Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:19-21, NASB

# Ambassadors for Christ Like Christ

*What challenges do you realize that you personally have in evangelism?*

# Ambassadors for Christ Like Christ

*What have you learned from Jesus over the past few weeks that you want to start practicing?*

# Learning to Be Ambassadors for Christ

Text	Description of Ministry ( <i>What Evangelism Is</i> )	Perspective for Ministry ( <i>Why We Do Evangelism</i> )
1:3-7	<i>Comfort those afflicted</i>	<i>We have received Comfort</i>
2:14-17	<i>Fragrance of Christ</i>	<i>We are led in triumph in Christ</i>
3:1-6	<i>Writing letters by Spirit</i>	<i>Sufficiency in New Covenant of Spirit</i>
3:12-4:6	<i>Open, unveiled shining of truth of Christ</i>	<i>Boldness by mercy and glory of Christ</i>
4:7-18	<i>Jars of clay holding treasure</i>	<i>Resurrection of Christ</i>

## **“...Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ”**

- 1. Because we have an eternal perspective (1-5)...**
- 2. We have good courage by faith (6-8)...**
- 3. And make it our ambition to please Christ (9)...**
- 4. With concern for the judgment of others (10-11)...**
- 5. Controlled by the fear and love of Christ (12-15)...**
- 6. Not viewing people according to the flesh (16)...**
- 7. Since we are a new creation (17)...**
- 8. We know God has reconciled us to reconcile others (18-19)**