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## Being an Ambassador for Christ *A Commentary by Jason Curry*



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As a Christian community, we were fortunate to celebrate Easter Sunday less than a week ago, and now we are quickly moving toward Pentecost Sunday on June 12, 2011. According to the Christian liturgical calendar, we should continue to reflect and mediate on Resurrection Sunday as we begin to bear witness to the power and presence of the Holy Spirit as it has appeared the book of Acts, and as it currently appears in our churches on Sunday morning. The Apostle Paul was one of the greatest ambassadors of Jesus Christ who believed both in the resurrection of our Lord and Savior as well as power of the Holy. As an ambassador for Christ, Paul would greet people at the beginning of his letter to the churches. Paul would often begin his letter by telling the church who he was in relation to Jesus. For example, in the first chapter of the book of Romans, he

began by telling the church "I Paul, am a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, and set apart for the gospel of God..." By identifying himself as a servant of the Lord, Paul was implicitly stating that his first order of business in greeting people was to reflect the love, generosity, sincerity, and humility of Jesus the Christ.

We never get a second chance to make a first impression. When we greet people as ambassadors of Christ, the joy of Jesus should meet them before we physically greet them. We should not have to announce that we're servants of the Lord, because our very being, our very countenance, our very presence, our very walk, our very talk should communicate the idea that God is real to us, and that the power and presence of the Holy Spirit is with us. We are in this world, but not of it (John 17:11-16), and as am-

bassadors for Christ and beneficiaries of a tremendous Christian legacy, we shall forever remain thankful for God's blessings, miracles, and love.

To be sure, we need the love of Christ in us if we will attempt to be good ambassadors for Christ. The world in which we live often seeks to blame us for things, and hold us forever accountable for our past deeds and mistakes. It often seeks to heap coals of guilt and shame on our heads without care or concern for the damage they may cause. However, when we invite God into our lives, we take our problems to the Lord in prayer, God is able to take away our guilt, and God washes away our shame. As we go forward through the Christian year, let us continue to be ambassadors for Christ.