

KNOW WHO YOU ARE

Discussion Notes

AMBASSADOR

In times of stress and anxiety it is important that we give space for people to reflect on how they are doing. Take some time to find out how Hub members are coping in the current situation and pray together, especially for those who are struggling. After this you may want to draw a line for the moment so not all conversations lead back to it.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:11-21 together. Paul tells us that we are Christ's ambassadors.

- What does this mean to you?
- Is this an easy role? Where and why do we struggle with this?

Philip then explained two reasons why we might find being Christ's ambassadors difficult.

WE'RE NOT SURE WE'RE GOOD ENOUGH

Many of us don't feel equipped to be Christ's ambassadors; either we don't have the ability or character to do this well.

- Does this feeling of not being good enough to be Christ's ambassador resonate with anyone?
- What affect does this have on our ability to live out the things that God has called us to.
- Philip shared that it is not actually about us and our ability. As ambassadors we are a bridge between two kingdoms - God and the world. So for ambassadors 'where they come from informs who they are, where they're on mission informs what they do.' What does this mean? How does this impact our ability to carry out the challenge?

WE'RE NOT SURE THE NEWS IS GOOD ENOUGH

- Do you agree that for many of us we actually believe in the 'mediocre news' rather than the Good News of the Gospel.
- Philip said that if we really understood God's love for us then it would change our perspective on what we are here to do. Do you think you really understand God's love? If not, what difference would understanding it more make to your role as Christ's ambassador?

ALL HAVE DIED

- God is no longer counting people's sins against them, everything that keeps everyone from salvation has been dealt with and is dead. Do we view people through this lens?
- If you knew someone living as a slave in the American South, because they hadn't heard about the great Emancipation Proclamation, what would you do about it? Would you share the good news with them, or would you feel it was none of your business?
- How should this affect the way we handle the good news of God's love for people?
- Why do you think God trusted us with the message of reconciliation? Could He have found a better way?

Finally, Philip reflected on what it means for us to be ambassadors for Christ in the current Coronavirus pandemic.

- How can we do this as individuals?
- How could we do this as a Hub and wider church community?