



## MOUNTAINS OF INFLUENCE: AMBASSADORS

### SCRIPTURAL REFERENCE

II Corinthians 5:17-20

### ADDITIONAL STUDY

Jeremiah 1:5, Isaiah 2:2, & Matthew 5:13-16

### PRAYER

LORD, make me light and salt in my field of endeavour; that I may show forth Your glory as a true ambassador for Christ in Jesus' name, amen

**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. ~ II Corinthians 5:20**

Christians have become seemingly accustomed to keeping their eyes closed in prayers while non-Christians hijack the institutions of the world. God's agenda, however, is to move us beyond the walls of the church into the 'playing field' of the world in order to correct the error that Christians are supposed to stay in church while unregenerate men run the affairs of the world. We must understand that as Christians, we are still in the world (even if not of this world), therefore, whatever decisions and policies are made will affect us. Thus, God wants our involvement in society as His AMBASSADORS.

An ambassador is an official who lives in a foreign country as a senior representative there of his own country. He is usually authorised by his country to display its culture and glory to the host nation. In the same way, every Christian has an authorization from God to do likewise here on earth. Just like God authorised Moses and sent him to Pharaoh, saying, "I have made you as God unto Pharaoh..." (Exodus 7:1). God has a mandate for your life. He sent you as an ambassador to show His glory in your field of endeavour. It is time to arise and live up to that eternal mandate.

Being a representative is a big responsibility. Mark 3:13-15 records that before Jesus selected His representatives (disciples) and gave them their mandate, He first called them to be acquainted with Him. Ambassadors are not illiterates; they are well versed in current affairs of both their nation and the host nation. To be an effective ambassador for Christ therefore, you must study your field well to know how to rise to the top and remain there so that you can influence the world with God's fragrance.

In 1975, Church leaders, Bill Bright and Loren Cunningham developed what they called the seven mountains (or pillars) of societal influence. They are: Family, Government, Media, Education, Arts & Entertainment, Religion and Business. These mountains are the powers that control different segments of our social life in every society. These mountains shape the culture of every nation. If you check your status in life, you will discover that you are on one or more of these mountains. It is God's plan for you to rise to the peak, because those who are at the top influence everything. More so, you are the light of the world. Light is not needed where there is a constellation of lights (church), but where darkness is; so you need to leave the church walls and shine your light on these mountains.

In subsequent editions, we shall study how Christians can actively engage at the top of these mountains.

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