

AMBASSADORS
of the
KING

21 DAYS OF PRAYER

Friends,

For the next 21 days we are going to pray about one thing together, and I want to name it clearly before we start. **We are asking God to make Rolling Hills a church of ambassadors.**

An ambassador carries a name that is not their own. Paul says that God makes his appeal through us, which means the people around you will form much of their picture of Jesus from watching how you actually live. That is a weight I cannot carry by trying harder, and neither can you. It only happens when the Spirit of God is doing something in ordinary people like us.

So this is a guide about begging heaven! I do not use that word for effect. Scripture is full of people who refused to leave the room until God moved, and I want us to become those people. For three weeks I am asking you to beg heaven to pour out the Spirit on this church. What I am asking for is an outpouring that no strategy of ours could produce and no one among us could take credit for.

Greater Portland is full of people who are tired, lonely, and quietly hoping that something is true. God placed us here on purpose. I keep imagining thousands of us scattered through the neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, and hospital rooms of this region, displaying the hope of the gospel through the ordinary shape of our lives.

Each day you will find a short reading, a passage of Scripture, and a prompt to shape your prayer. You will also find action steps along the way that help you engage more deeply with the ministry at Rolling Hills.

Lastly, put September 27 on your calendar and protect it. That night we will gather as a church for worship and prayer. I want every one of us in that room! We are sent together, and I do not want you to miss what God does when we ask Him to pour out His Spirit on our church.

In love,

Allan

DAY 1 | SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

**AMBASSADORS OF THE KING
REPRESENT CHRIST WELL**

PASTOR ALLAN MCCULLOUGH

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 5:20; 1 Peter 2:11-12

REFLECTION

An ambassador never speaks on their own behalf. They carry a name that is not their own, and everything they do can either honor that name or dishonor it. Paul says God makes his appeal through us. That is a staggering sentence. The way you handle a hard conversation at work, a slow line at the store, a disagreement at home, is the way many people will form ideas about our King.

Peter says the same thing from another angle. He calls us strangers and exiles and tells us to keep our conduct honorable among the people watching, because they will form their picture of God from what they observe over time. Notice he does not start with our words. He starts with our lives.

There is a reason for that. People read us before they hear us. Our bodies pick up tone, posture, and facial expression faster than we can process a sentence. Long before anyone weighs your theology, they have already built an impression of the God you claim.

At Rolling Hills, we have been called to represent the King in our neighborhoods and our city. I imagine thousands of followers of Jesus displaying the hope of the gospel through the ordinary shape of their lives. That begins with belonging. When you are settled in who you belong to, your life carries the King's name automatically.

PRAY

Pray that God would grow your awareness of two things:

- His unconditional and unwaivering love for you.
- The ways you may or may not show that love to the people around you. Pray for those people: your family, neighbors, co-workers, classmates, etc... Pray that God would give you the same heart for them that He has for you.

Ask God to move powerfully this year so that we would witness over 200 people come to faith in Jesus.

DAY 2 | SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING RESPOND WITH GENTLENESS AND RESPECT

PASTOR AARON DOERR

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 3:15–16

REFLECTION

We live in the age of the hot take, the click-bait headline. It feels like there's a premium on opinions that are strongly held and weakly formed. Social Media and news channels are shaping how you handle beliefs, opinions, and people. We're taught that our beliefs separate us as superior from others, and people are expendable as allies or enemies. Echo chambers have become our houses of worship, influencers and news anchors, our priests, and the "OWNED" video our daily sacrament.

This contrasts sharply with how the Bible tells us to hold beliefs, share opinions, and treat people. In 1 Peter 3:15–16, the apostle tells us to always be prepared to give a defense, but to do it with gentleness and kindness. This is a command, not a suggestion. And the word "always" means we don't get to pick and choose when we're obeying this command.

Finally, Peter says that what we're giving a defense to is when "...anyone asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you;..." This implies that others notice that we are people of hope. Something about the way we show up at work, school, our neighborhoods, and online, is an embodiment of hope, rather despair.

The world is used to tear down tactics. When there's nothing left to hope for, it's the only thing people have. We are a people of hope. Let's lift others up as we give a well prepared defense for the hope we have in Jesus!

PRAY

Pray that God would give you:

- Relational opportunities this week to share and defend the hope in Jesus with gentleness and kindness.
- The confidence and resources to grow in your preparedness.

If you want help finding helpful resources for this, please reach out at info@rollinghills.org

DAY 3 | SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING SERVE LIKE JESUS

ELDER CHUCK EASTERLY

SCRIPTURE

Mark 10:43–45

REFLECTION

On Jesus's last evening with His disciples, He gathered them to celebrate the Passover feast. It's a scene described in detail in John 13:1–17. If someone in a position of power and authority burst into the Upper Room that night and asked, "Who's in charge here?", they would have been surprised to see a head pop up from a person sitting on the floor behind a basin with a wet towel and some dirty feet in His hands.

Jesus redefines what greatness and power look like. In fact, Jesus inverts worldly power structures. *"Whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all."* (Mark 10:43-44) The foot-washing scene in John 13 crystallizes Jesus's powerful words. After washing His disciples' feet, despite His position as Lord and Teacher, Jesus instructs them to imitate His actions.

Imitating Jesus is at the heart of our Mission Statement. As ambassadors of the King, we are called to "think, love, and live like Jesus." And if serving people is a central part of how Jesus lived, loved, and thought about others, it needs to be a central part of our own lives.

The question isn't whether we should be serving. It's how and where we should be serving. Just as we are called to love and serve our own family, we are also called to love and serve others.

PRAY

As you pray today, thank God for equipping each of us with spiritual gifts and abilities so we can serve like Jesus served. If you're already serving within our church family, ask God to give you a keen awareness of His Spirit each day so you can serve with joy, passion, and purpose. If you're in a season where physical limitations or special circumstances are holding you back from serving as you'd desire, ask God to give you His peace as you endure these circumstances. If you're not currently serving, ask the Lord to open your heart to whatever it is He is calling you to do.



Scan the QR Code to find serving opportunities at Rolling Hills.

DAY 4 | SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING SET THEIR MINDS ON THINGS ABOVE

PASTOR JEN GULBRANDSON

SCRIPTURE

Colossians 3:1–3

REFLECTION

In this passage, Paul is reminding us that we have been raised to a new life in Jesus. When we surrender our lives to Jesus, we are a new creation. Because we are made new by what Jesus has done for us, he is reminding us what being an ambassador looks like. Paul tells us two things: Set your hearts and your minds on things above.

First he wants our hearts seeking things above where Christ is reigning in heaven. This means praying and asking Jesus to help our hearts: our desires, our longings to be focused on Him and His Kingdom purposes. It means asking Jesus to cause our hearts to be drawn to Him and what He is doing in the world. Second, he is praying that our minds will be focused on Jesus. Paul says our minds should not be set on earthly things. which is such an easy trap to fall into. We all get busy. We allow things to distract us, but Paul is reminding us that we need to pray and ask Jesus to help us to fill our minds (what we read, watch, view and etc.) with things above—things focused on Jesus.

We are made new in Jesus. May our hearts and minds reflect that we are ambassadors of the King.

PRAY

Take time today to really think through what your heart posture looks like, and what you are filling your mind with. Ask God to transform your heart and mind to be about Jesus, and what He is doing around you. Ask God to cause your heart and mind to be on things above and not on the world.

DAY 5 | SEPTEMBER 18, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING DEVOTE THEMSELVES TO PRAYER

JUDY GLANZ, PhD

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 4:6-7

REFLECTION

My mind gets hijacked easily from abiding in Christ. I think too much. I try to figure things out. Alone. All those thoughts pull me from abiding through peace, prayer, and a guarded mind in Christ. I find myself susceptible to ideas from the deceiver: "Is that thought legit, or a lie? Either way, I'm invited by God to pray instead of worry.

The text offers a plan: First, honestly name the thought as worry. Then, turn it into dialogue with Jesus. I am not a victim of my thoughts. I have a Savior who listens, and I can choose to turn toward Him. Let every worried thought become a conversation with Jesus. With practice, this becomes automatic. Nothing fancy needed. Talk it over with Him. Give Him your "what ifs." Then test your heart. Still anxious? Take deep breaths. Call on His name. Stay with Him until peace settles.

Second, if thoughts feel like too much, reach out. Arrange now with a trusted Christian friend who will pray FOR you and WITH you.

Third, supplication means bringing our desires before God. Those who know their hearts can bring desires straight to Him: "This is what I'd really like" or "Here's what's on my mind, what do You think?" He likely gave us these desires (Psalm 37:4) to work out with Him in prayer, so we can examine whether to keep bringing them or release them.

This invitation carries a promise: peace and a guarded mind, protected from overthinking and unsanctified fear.

PRAY

Pray that God would grow your trust in His nearness and His ability to guard your heart and mind. Talk to Him openly about areas where you feel hesitant to trust Him. Give Him your worries.



**JOIN US FOR
PRAYER NIGHT
SEPTEMBER 27
@ 6 PM**

DAY 6 | SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING INVEST IN THE KINGDOM

PASTOR ALLAN MCCULLOUGH

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25:14–30

REFLECTION

The master in this parable hands over real money and then leaves with no instructions and no supervision. Two of the servants put what they were given to work and double it. The third buries his, and when he explains himself he names the reason plainly. Fear.

Fear buries things. When we sense threat, our bodies pull inward and start protecting whatever we are holding. That instinct will save your life in an emergency and shrink it everywhere else. Ambassadors of the King live from a different place. We are smart investors.

We invest through generous giving to the church, trusting that money released into Kingdom work does more than money saved. We invest our time, talent, and skill we could easily sell somewhere else for the building up of the church.

From the outside this looks reckless. Give away your time, talent, and treasure that you could have kept for yourself. The world watching has a word for that, and the word is foolish.

We know who holds the account. Nothing placed in the Kingdom is lost, and the return arrives in places you were not watching. Notice what the master says over the servants who invested. Enter into the joy of your master. The ROI includes JOY.

PRAY

Thank God for what He has entrusted to you. Money, time, skills, relationships, etc. Ask Him to show you where fear has you burying it. Let Him meet you there before you make any plan. From that place, ask Him where he wants you to invest. How much does He want you to consistently give to the church? Where is He calling you to serve? Where is He calling you to invest in the Kingdom?



DAY 7 | SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING LIVE IN COMMUNITY

PASTOR TYLER EATON

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 10:24-25

REFLECTION

I love that word “consider” in this verse. It’s not a passing glance. Rather it means to think hard about something, to give it weight. And what we’re supposed to give weight to is how we stir each other toward love and good works. Not whether we should, but how. We live in a culture that treats faith like a personal project. Me and my Bible, me and my quiet time, me and God. And there’s real value in that. But this passage won’t let us stop there. It keeps pointing us back to other people.

Here’s the picture I keep coming back to: an ambassador never represents a nation by themselves. There’s an embassy. A staff. A whole community holding up the mission together. That’s us too. We represent Jesus, but not alone. We were never meant to carry that weight solo.

And this is exactly how we grow into people who think, love, and live like Jesus, and then pass that life on to somebody else. That kind of formation doesn’t happen through a sermon or a podcast. It happens slowly, through people who know you, who ask how you’re really doing, who stick around long enough to shape you. People who ask the hard questions because they desire God’s best for you. So don’t neglect it. Don’t let busyness quietly convince you community is optional.

Prayerfully consider joining a group here at Rolling Hills if you haven’t already. Not for another obligation, but for the slow, sacred work of becoming who you already are: an ambassador, formed among others, sent together into the world.

PRAY

1. God, show me where I’ve been trying to live this out alone. Give me the humility to let others in, and the courage to be the kind of person who stirs someone else towards love.
2. Lord, if you’re inviting me into an intentional community here at Rolling Hills, make that clear. Soften any hesitation I’m carrying and give me a willingness to take the next step.



DAY 8 | SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING ENDURE TRIALS WITH JOY

PASTOR RACHELLE HUMPHREY

SCRIPTURE

James 1:2–4

REFLECTION

James says to be joyful in hardship, knowing that trials lead to steadfastness; they cause us to become firm in our beliefs. This is one of those passages that, when read on the page, one nods sagely and agrees. But when the day of trial comes, when the storm blows in the form of a diagnosis or tragedy, for example, our response is devastation, overwhelm, and panic.

So, how does one endure the wild winds and deep waters so that the storm produces steadfastness? In crisis, we are tempted to sail our ship alone, head down, teeth gritted, feet planted against the wind. We don't want to trouble others. We find it hard to ask for help. Deep down, we wonder if anyone would actually show up when we call. So we close ourselves off and suffer alone.

But that isn't what Jesus modeled. Mark 14:33–34 tells us that, when faced with the greatest trial in human history, Jesus reached out to His friends. He gathered Peter, James, and John, and He shared His heart with them. "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death" (NLT). And then He asked them to stay with Him.

In trials, we need a friend to sit with us while we cry. We need someone to drop off a pint of ice cream or take our kid to practice. We need community. So invest in one another. Be present and authentic. Ask for help, and show up when others reach out.

PRAY

Pray that God would be preparing you now for whatever storms are on the horizon. Or, if you are currently in a storm, pray that God would grant you deep peace in the face of the trial, and that your faith would grow in steadfastness. Then ask God to bring authentic friends alongside you to walk with you, sit with you, pray with you, and comfort you. Ask God to show you who in your life is in a trial, and how you can love that person with intention.

DAY 9 | SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING SERVE OTHERS WITH THEIR GIFTS

MARGIE TURNER

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 4:10-11

REFLECTION

As Ambassadors of the King, we are to serve others with the unique gift that God has given us. Each of us have received a gift that can be used in God's kingdom. Some are gifted in teaching, others in service, compassion, hospitality, encouragement and so many other areas. It is our responsibility and duty to use our gifting in service to the kingdom.

When we serve, we do not serve in our own power. We serve through the strength that God provides. God will not call us into service without providing us the tools that we need. Serving is not about drawing attention to us; it is about honoring and glorifying God.

Mark 10:45 reminds us, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve..." Jesus came as the ultimate example of kingdom service. We see this clearly at the Last Supper. Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. In that time, it was unheard of for a teacher to take the posture of a servant before his students. Yet Jesus was not bound by the expectations of society. He served to glorified the King, not society.

There are so many ways to use your gifts! Scan the QR code to discover the opportunities available and see what exciting service adventure God has in store for you today!

PRAY

Pray that God will make you aware of your unique gifts and how those gifts can be used to further the Kingdom of God. Prayerfully consider the volunteer opportunities list in the QR Code for a place for you to serve at Rolling Hills.



DAY 10 | SEPTEMBER 23, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING PURSUE HUMILITY AND UNITY

KATE SCHAFROTH

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 4:2–3

REFLECTION

People will disappoint us. They will say or do hurtful things and fall short of our expectations. Often our instinct is to judge rather than to understand. In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul calls us to humility. Before he talks about unity, he points us to the posture of our own hearts.

Humility makes room for gentleness. Gentleness leads to patience. Patience allows us to bear with one another in love. We are a church full of imperfect people learning to follow a perfect Savior together. Recognizing our own flaws and need for forgiveness unites us with our brothers and sisters in our shared need for the Gospel. Judgment loses some of its grip, and we are free to love and forgive as Christ has done for us.

This doesn't mean we should allow mistreatment or ignore truth, but we are called to make every effort to extend grace, and in doing that, we protect unity. When we keep our eyes on His grace, we strengthen and protect the bond we share as believers, and together we experience peace.

PRAY

Are there relationships in your life where judgment or disappointment are interfering with your ability to respond with grace? Ask God to reveal any hidden pride and soften your heart so that you can meet others with gentleness and understanding. May Rolling Hills be a church where no one sees themselves as better than another. As we examine ourselves honestly, we will be better able to respond to others with truth and love.

DAY 11 | SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING DISCIPLE THE NEXT GENERATION

PASTOR NICOLE BRUTOSKY

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

REFLECTION

Our world tells young people to follow their own path, speak their truth and find themselves. Jesus tells us that He is the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6). Ambassadors of Jesus live their lives for Him, not for themselves; as ambassadors, we are called to lead the next generation into this truth.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 says: "These commands that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." As parents, you are called to lead your children. But if you're not a parent, you aren't off the hook. Paul was single, but took responsibility for mentoring young people in faith. Paul calls Timothy his "dear son" and Titus his "true son in our common faith." Our children need Godly guidance, and they do not get that from the world around them.

One place to reach the next generation is right here in RH Kids. Each week, our kids are taught Scripture, learn who Jesus is and what He has done for them. The heart of RH Kids is the faithful followers of Jesus who are willing to invest in Kingdom work. Whether it's welcoming new families, rocking babies or leading a small group, serving here is one way to be obedient to Deuteronomy 6:6-7! How is God calling you to invest in the next generation?

PRAY

Pray for a heart for the next generation. If you are a parent, ask God to lead you as you disciple your own children in your home alongside the work of the church. If you are a grandparent, pray for ways to pour into your children and grandchildren as your own life reflects God's Kingdom. If you do not have kids of your own, pray that God would show you opportunities to reach the next generation serving as His ambassador.

If you are interested in serving with RH Kids, scan this QR code to get started.



DAY 12 | SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING LOVE LIKE CHRIST

PASTOR JOI HAILEY

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

REFLECTION

Oftentimes, we can use our own definition of what love is, even use it against someone if they are acting in a way that doesn't live up to our own personal standard of love.

Paul describes what love is and what it isn't. He emphasizes that love is patient, kind, bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things and endures all things. He emphasizes what it is not; it is not envious, boastful, arrogant or rude; it does not insist on its own way and is not irritable or resentful. How often do we act in the way that Paul opposes, even to the people that we love?

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 gives us a guide to how we can biblically love others not as we want to, but as God would hope for us to love. I can be tempted to love who I want within a definition that I see fit. But to be a follower of Christ— an ambassador, a representative— I have been called to love people as Christ loves, which is everyone. From the people in the family to ones who have hurt me, I am called to love them.

We give gratitude to God who has called us to love according to His desires rather than our own. We can give gratitude to God who gives us the definition of what love is and embodies it, so that we can love others according to His will.

And truly, wouldn't we want others to love us according to how Christ loves us, and not according to their own will?

PRAY

Lord, expose areas in my life where I have not loved myself well.

DAY 13 | SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING ARE FREE FROM THE LOVE OF MONEY

PASTOR AARON DOERR

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:5

REFLECTION

If someone asked me if I love money, I'd probably say, "No." I know money is necessary for food, shelter, clothing, (and Netflix), but I'd never say I love money.

Yet if I'm honest, I have a deep dependency on having a certain number in my bank account. That dependency is more than wise money management. It's a need to feel secure, significant, cared for, and satisfied—words we typically use to describe being loved. So while I might not say I love money, I realize I need it to feel loved, which is basically the same thing.

Hebrews 13:5 says, "Keep your life free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for as he has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'" The writer connects our contentment with money to our trust in God's nearness and faithfulness. That's a challenge: Do I trust that God can make me feel secure, significant, cared for, and satisfied?

It's one thing to long for trust instead of a scarcity mentality. It's another to make decisions that actually change us. Throughout Scripture, the decision that moves people toward trusting God, and away from being controlled by love of money, is giving. Jesus said, "No one can serve two masters... You cannot serve both God and money" (Matthew 6:24). Each time you give, you make a concrete decision to transfer trust from your bank balance to the God who knows and loves you.

PRAY

This week read Matthew 6:25-34 and ask God to remind you that He will not leave you or forsake you. Then, with that grounding, ask Him to build in you a lifetime of giving to your local church as a way to move you steadily from the insecurity of loving money, to the security of being loved and cared for by God.

DAY 14 | SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING SHINE AS LIGHTS IN THE WORLD

PASTOR ALLAN MCCULLOUGH

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 2:14-16

REFLECTION

Picture Rolling Hills scattered across this city like lights in every neighborhood, school, workplace, and hospital room. That is the vision Paul puts in front of the Philippians when he tells them they shine as lights in the world, and it is what God has sent us into this city to do.

He is writing to people under real pressure, and he begins somewhere surprising. Do everything without grumbling or arguing, he says, because a complaining life gives off very little light. Then he names the setting we live in, a crooked and twisted generation, and he leaves us standing right in the middle of it, since lights are placed in the dark on purpose.

Notice that Paul writes this to a church and not to an individual, because we are sent together. A single light in a dark place is faint, but a church that bands together will carry burdens no one could hold alone and encourage one another daily so that nobody quits in the dark. This is exactly why we gather, and why we pray for each other and for the city God has placed us in.

This is not easy! Which is why Paul anchors us to the word of life and to the day of Christ, because when you are confident in where you are going, you can carry weight of living amongst a crooked and twisted generation.

PRAY

Start preparing your heart for tonight, when we gather as a church to worship and pray together. Bring Him the hard place you are being sent into and the names of the people you want to carry into that room with you. Ask Him to soften anything in you that would keep you from praying honestly alongside your brothers and sisters. Pray that as we lift our voices together, God would send us out from that room as lights across this city, and that our lives would make the hope of Christ visible to people who have not yet seen it.



**JOIN US FOR
PRAYER NIGHT
SEPTEMBER 27
@ 6 PM**

DAY 15 | SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING LIVE SELF-CONTROLLED, GODLY LIVES

PASTOR ZACH GILLOCK

SCRIPTURE

Titus 2:11-14

REFLECTION

Let's say I told you "Don't think about a purple elephant! Whatever you do, don't picture a purple elephant." If all you do is think, "Don't think about a purple elephant!" what is likely to come to mind? Likely, a purple elephant.

Learning to think, love and live like Jesus in our everyday life requires a two-fold approach. First, there is the "put off / put to death" approach. We are to put off the thoughts and desires of the flesh, and put to death actions and behaviors that are contrary to what God has called us to. These desires and actions are driven by worldly passions and lawlessness. They are characteristic of what the Bible calls the "old man" – the person we were before we entrusted our life to Jesus. This approach is important, but on its own will result in the "avoid thinking about a purple elephant" effect.

But the Christian life is so much more than just avoiding those sinful thoughts, desires and behaviors. It is a call to reorient our heart so that the way we think, love and live is more aligned with God's heart. Which means we also need to focus on "putting on" the new man – clothing ourselves with Godly mindsets and righteous behaviors.

Titus 2:11-14 highlights this exact dynamic: The grace of God teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions [put off], and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age [put on]. We do this eagerly, not to earn salvation or God's favor, but because Jesus gave Himself to redeem and purify us as His own people.

PRAY

Spend time meditating on and thanking Jesus for redeeming us and making us His people. Then ask the Lord to reveal any ways your thinking, loving, and living are still characterized by "worldly passions" and "lawlessness" rather than "self-control" and "godliness." If God reveals an area, thank Him. This conviction is evidence of the Holy Spirit at work in your heart! Consider sharing what He shows you with a trusted Christian friend.

DAY 16 | SEPTEMBER 29, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING SERVE THE VULNERABLE

KIM MCCULLOUGH

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25:35-40

REFLECTION

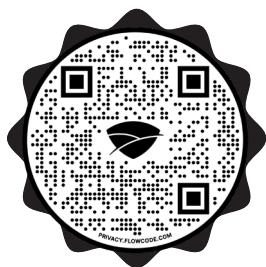
What Jesus communicates in this passage is incredible. He identifies the people society tends to ignore or cast aside and tells us to treat them as you would treat Him. This is a step beyond what Jesus says in Matthew 22:39, to "Love your neighbor as yourself." God's compassion for the vulnerable is reflected throughout Scripture and it is evidenced in the life of Jesus, who scandalized the religious leaders by spending most of His time with vulnerable populations, "sinners," and the people they deemed "unworthy." So, it is in line with His character to call us to love and serve them as if they were Jesus Himself.

It can be overwhelming to know how to start. There is so much to navigate in our polarized world when it comes to helping the specific types of people Jesus mentions. And doing so will likely require us to step outside our comfort zone and get in close proximity with the brokenness in our world. But as you seek to obey this mandate, remember, we are not called to outcomes, to fixing broken systems, or even to saving a life. In this passage what we are called to is simple: meet needs, welcome in, and go and visit. That's it, it really is that simple. People, no matter their experiences, simply want to be seen and to know they are not alone.

So go. Be near. Jesus will meet you there and He will do something beautiful out of the brokenness.

PRAY

Spend time marveling at the way God pursues His people, no matter how sinful, poor, or hurt we are. Reflect on the ways He has met you in your deepest need. Ask Him to give you a heart to see others in their need. Praise God for the way He can redeem what is lost and broken and trust Him with any fear that might be holding you back. Ask Him where He is already at work and if He has prepared a place for you to join Him in that work. Ask Him to give you the courage to step into those places and to trust Him with the outcomes.



If you are interested in serving with Community Outreach, scan this QR code to get started.

DAY 17 | SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES

HOLLIE PERLMUTTER

SCRIPTURE

1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

REFLECTION

In Paul's letter to the believers in Thessalonica, who faced immense opposition, he gives crystal clear instructions: Give thanks in all circumstances. It sounds so simple, so easy. Without much thought, Paul's words might go in one ear and out the other. Just another well-meaning suggestion for good living. But, because the Thessalonians are probably a bit more like us than we realize, Paul underscores the importance of his exhortation by stating *"this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"*. Did God really desire for them, and does He desire for us, to give thanks in ALL circumstances? The good, the bad and the ugly? Yes! An honest assessment of my daily practices reveals that I live well outside God's will in this arena. What about you?

When desires go unmet, expectations lead to disappointment, relationships cause pain, or we face opposition, how can we give thanks in those times? Paul's letter sheds some light. Prior to instructing his friends to give thanks, he reminds them that their future is secure. They will live forever with God. Then he directs them to pay close attention to one another. To appreciate the laborers, correct those who stray, and help the weak. In times of trial, our tendency is to focus solely on ourselves and our current circumstances, leaving little within view to inspire thanks. But if we lift our eyes, take God's goodness and mercy as well as the beauty of community into view, it reveals much to be grateful for. Thankfulness often requires a new perspective.

Thankful people are effective kingdom ambassadors. When we give thanks, even in the darkest of times, it redirects us, and those in our community, toward God: the one who is worthy of all our thanks.

PRAY

Ask God to search your heart and reveal the areas where you have room to grow in thankfulness. Take time to confess and talk to God about the things that consistently cause you to grumble or complain. Ask God to change your perspective, and give you eyes to see His goodness, even in the hard times. Thank God for His patience and His help as you begin to practice giving thanks in all circumstances.

DAY 18 | OCTOBER 1, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING GIVE GENEROUSLY

PASTOR NICK WEST

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 9:6–8

REFLECTION

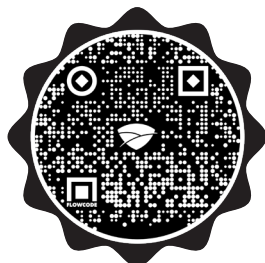
In order to be a true ambassador of the King, we must prioritize the interests of God above earthly allegiances. One of the most important ways we can do this is to give generously to God's kingdom, which prioritizes the Lord's work over what the world would tell us is important.

Deuteronomy 8:18 reminds believers that God grants the ability to produce wealth, stating, "But remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth." This verse underscores that financial success and the capacity to create wealth originate from God rather than human effort alone. When we remember that the Lord is our ultimate financial provider, and not a company or organization, it shifts our perspective to reinvest the resources the Lord graciously provides to us back in to His kingdom, to further His purposes.

Romans 8:32 reminds us of the abundant generosity of the Lord: "He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all—how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?" Knowing that the Lord offered up Jesus, His only son, as a living sacrifice for our salvation, can serve as a reminder that we honor God's generous heart when we give generously to the kingdom. We can never repay God for the gift of Jesus, but we can shift our heart posture to reflect the generous heart of the Lord when we give sacrificially and impactfully to His kingdom.

PRAY

Thank God for your ability to be provided with a job to earn income, and the blessings that come with this provision from the Lord. Then pray and ask the Lord to help you examine where you are on your giving journey and provide you with clarity on which stage He is calling you to, in order to be an ambassador of the King and Kingdom.



Join us on September 27 for Prayer & Worship Night to learn more about the budget.

DAY 19 | OCTOBER 2, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING WALK IN BOLDNESS, NOT FEAR

PASTOR BRIGETTE ENRIGHT

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 1:7

REFLECTION

The seed of fear naturally grows rampantly in our world, cropping up around corners and creeping into our conversations. As ambassadors, we're not immune to feeling fear when we find ourselves in a dialogue where we know we could invite someone to church or speak of the hope we've found in Jesus. 2 Timothy 1:7 tells us, though, that the fear that wells up within us is not from God.

We have confidence that, through the Holy Spirit, we have the power to be God's witnesses, proclaiming with boldness His invitation into His kingdom. This is the same power that raised Jesus from the dead! His Spirit, which has been given to us, fills us to love well—to go beyond our human capabilities and care for others in ways that don't make sense to the world.

Self-control and a sound mind are marks of God's Spirit dwelling within us. He gives us the ability to endure difficult conversations and argumentative agendas, weighing our words and actions carefully so that we put forth the same love our Savior has shown us, rather than retorting in defense or cowering in fear.

Let us, then, be bold with the gospel, speaking it and living it out. Let us share and stand firm on God's Word, even when it doesn't feel comfortable. Remember the gifts that God has given to those who are alive in Him.

PRAY

As you pray today praise God for the way He has and is filling you with His Spirit, to be a mighty witness. Take a moment to repent for the moments you have not used His council in responding to the world around you. Ask the Lord to fall afresh on you, filling you with His Spirit to be bold in representing His Kingdom. Then yield in holy surrender as He speaks to you in ways only He can.

DAY 20 | OCTOBER 3, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING RAISE UP FUTURE GENERATIONS OF FAITH

PASTOR ANGIE MCKAY

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 2:2

REFLECTION

Judges 2:10 stands as one of the most sobering verses in Scripture. "Another generation grew up who knew neither the LORD nor what He had done for Israel." The rest of Judges shows us what happens when one generation fails to pass its faith on to the next. We as believers cannot assume that the next generation will know who God is and what He has done for us. Every generation must be taught, disciplined, and invited to follow Jesus.

So how do we live as ambassadors who raise up future generations of faith? It starts at home. Parents are the primary spiritual influence in the lives of their children and are indispensable in their discipleship. But parents were never meant to do this alone. The church has a role to play as well. Research shows that students who have five meaningful relationships with Christian adults are more likely to continue living lives of faith and influence. This isn't just data, we see this modeled in Scripture.

In 2 Timothy 2:2, Paul had a kingdom mindset that extended beyond his own generation. He wanted to ensure that the people he invested in would continue the work by investing in others. That is our calling, too. Every one of us can help disciple the next generation by caring about them, showing up, praying for them, answering their questions, modeling grace, and pointing them toward Jesus. Imagine what the church could look like 15 years from now if every student had five adults encouraging, discipling, and cheering them on. Imagine an entire generation that knows the Lord and what He has done.

PRAY



Ask God to show you one student or young adult He is calling you to intentionally invest in. Pray that He would give you opportunities to build a meaningful relationship with them.

Pray also that God would raise up a generation that knows Him, knows what He has done, and faithfully passes their faith on to those who come after them.

DAY 21 | OCTOBER 4, 2026

AMBASSADORS OF THE KING FORGIVE AS THEY'VE BEEN FORGIVEN

PASTOR JEN GULBRANDSON

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 4:32

REFLECTION

This one verse packs a lot of punch. Paul shares: be kind, be compassionate to others, forgive one another, and the reason why we can do this is because Christ has forgiven us.

As ambassadors of the King He has called us to have lives transformed by Him. Lives that do not look like the rest of the world. That we are a people who are kind to others, a people that show compassion to others. Then the complicated calling: we are to be ambassadors that forgive. We forgive because Christ has forgiven us for our sins.

Forgiving others doesn't make the wrong done to us okay. Forgiving is releasing it. Saying "God you will take care of this, and I am trusting you with this." Forgiveness is hard at times, but it is the life that Jesus has called us to. With Jesus's guidance and leading, we can forgive.

This verse really hits me personally. I had to wrestle with forgiving someone that deeply hurt me. I had to come to terms with forgiving the person does not mean what they did was okay. I was able to forgive the person with lots of prayer and Jesus helping me say, "I forgive." When I chose to forgive I experienced freedom.

Forgiveness is a choice. It is one that Jesus calls us to because He chooses to forgive us. He took all our sin and forgave it. He has made us new, and calls us to live in this new life.

PRAY

Talk to God and share with him what you are struggling to forgive. Ask Him to create a heart posture that wants to forgive. Ask Him to help you forgive what took place. He sees you and what you have been through. Trust Him. He knows what is best for us. It may seem scary, but God is a loving God and will gently lead you in this.

As we end our 21 Days of Prayer together, pray that God will keep us on mission for Him, acting as ambassadors for King Jesus in our city, and that the people God puts in our path would see the hope found in Him.

NOTES



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