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**Fellowship of Companies for Christ  
 Greater Hartford Chapter  
 July 15, 2015**

- Welcome! Opening prayer and praise reports
- **Today's topic: Ministers in the Marketplace**

*Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.*

–2 Corinthians 5:20



It's amazing how rapidly time is flying by. Later this month, it will be three years since my Dad died in RI.

Nearly a decade ago, when I turned 50, subconsciously for the first time in my life, I began reading the obituaries in the *Journal Inquirer*. In preparing for today's meeting, I studied two weeks of obituaries and created a chart (see back) with some details on the 61 souls listed who stepped into eternity.

- 59% were male, were 41% female.
- 11% were under 60, 30% were in their 60s, 19% in their 70s, 23% in their 80s, and 16% in their 90s.
- Just 48% had a memorial service at a church or synagogue (39% of the men, 60% of the women).
- At least 84% spent some or much of their adulthood in various vocations outside of the home.

Which caused me to wonder: what kind of Christian influence did they have at work all those years? Did many of them grow up in church, but over the years, they stopped going? Why? If we truly are ambassadors for Christ, are we proclaiming the message to be reconciled to God? How? If we truly are ministers in the marketplace, what could/should/does that look like in everyday reality? We may not wear collars at work, but shouldn't we be wearing the armor of God, obeying His Word, abounding in His fruit, and flowing with His gifts?

I have a gift for you today: a Diplomatic Passport as an Ambassador of God's Kingdom!

Evaluate yourself from 1 (weak) to 10 (strong) in terms of your ambassadorship.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits might you enjoy by being a more vibrant minister in the marketplace?										
What specific actions can you take to do that?										

- Next meetings: August 5 and 19. *This Is My Story* on Sept 2 with Charlie Fields
- Upcoming events/news (Jacob's Well at MCC on Main this Friday at 7 pm)
- Closing prayer