

# RECONCILIATION

## INTRODUCTION

God does not count our sins against us, which means we have a message to give to people who are lost in sin. That message is a message of Hope, it is reconciliation with others and God.

## DISCUSSION (ROMANS 12:18)

What is the hardest thing, in your opinion, about reconciling with people?

## EXPLANATION (GENESIS 33:1-3)

Why is it so hard for us to be humble like Jacob before Esau?

Who would you never want to bow before?

Why?

Is there anyone you harbor secret thoughts about who you wish would bow to you?

## APPLICATION (GENESIS 33:4)

Read Matthew 5:21-24.

Can you describe a time when reconciliation worked?

When you know someone has an issue with you (or you have an issue with someone), how do you handle it?

Would you say that you seek people out for reconciliation, or that they seek you out more often?

## MISSION (2CORINTHIANS 5:18-21)

How does the cross of Christ make peace?

How do we best explain the peace making aspects of the cross to those who don't like Jesus?

What is the best way to credit God in our life for reconciliation?

## HOMEWORK FOR NEXT WEEK

Read Genesis 34:

When have you plotted revenge on someone (even if it was a daydream)?

How did it look and how did you feel better because of your plotted revenge?



# GENESIS

THE FINAL CHAPTERS

## RECONCILIATION

PART 51

GENESIS 33

Romans 12:18  
Genesis 33:1-20  
Colossians 1:19-20  
2 Corinthians 5:18-21

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## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING**

January 27th, 6pm

**NEWCOMER PARTY**

February 1st, 7pm  
<http://goo.gl/y6ZuP>

**BAPTISMS**

Want to be baptized?  
Signup: <http://goo.gl/bs7zk>

**MOE GO KART RACING**

February 16th  
<http://goo.gl/hu2Fh>

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

13 Week Study  
Tuesdays 9:30am

**GOSPEL CLASS**

Sundays at 9:30am

# RECONCILIATION

**Romans 12:18** “If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.”

The theological definition of Reconciliation is “a change of relationship between God and man based on the changed status of man through the redemptive work of Christ.” There are three aspects of this change which are suggested in the NT that results from reconciliation with God.

1. A reconciliation of *persons* between whom there has existed a state of enmity; God establishes in Christ’s redemptive work the basis of this changed relationship of persons (Rom 5:10; 2 Cor 5:19).

God is never said to be reconciled to man, but man to God, since it is man’s sinfulness that creates the enmity (Rom 8:7; Col 1:21) and precipitates God’s wrath (Eph 2:3, 5).

2. A reconciliation of *condition* so that all basis of the enmity relationship is removed and a complete basis of fellowship is established (2 Cor 5:18-20; Eph 2:16).
3. A reconciliation arising out of the change in man *induced by the action of God*. Man is not reconciled merely because his relationship has changed, but because *God* has changed him through Christ so that he can be reconciled (Rom 5:11; 11:15; 2 Cor 5:18; Eph 2:5).

Reconciliation arises out of God, through Christ, to man, so that not only may the barriers to fellowship existing in sinful people be removed, but the positive basis for fellowship may be established through the righteousness of Christ imputed (given) to man.

Even though the sufficient ground of reconciliation is established in the completed redemptive work of Christ, reconciliation is the basis on which all continued fellowship is established (Rom 5:10).

As Christian’s we should love and reach out to others as best we can, but Paul, in the scriptures, never assumes other people will respond in kind...

- You may forgive, and they won’t repent.
- You may love others, and they will hate you.
- You may offer a hand of friendship to others, and they may spit in your face.

Forgiveness and reconciliation are 2 different things: forgiveness takes one person (you), where reconciliation takes two people.

## 6 PRINCIPLES IN RECONCILIATION

**Principle #1 Reconciliation doesn’t always work.**

Just because you love Jesus, and love everyone, doesn’t mean that everyone will love you.

**Principle #2 Reconciliation requires humility.**

We should be a people who are confident in the abilities of God and not arrogant of ourselves.

**Principle #3 When it works, it is worth it.**

Because of reconciliation, Jacob begins to preach the good news to Esau “God has blessed me.”

**Principle #4 Reconciliation requires grace from everyone.**

The whole family needs to reconcile. This family, in Genesis 33, is getting issues worked out because it FINALLY has some leadership in Jacob.

**Principle #5 Reconciliation often requires restitution.**

Go apologize. It is better *to be good* than to look good.

**Principle #6 Reconciliation is the ultimate demonstration of the gospel.**

It shows the work of the ministry to Jesus by us living our lives.

*2 Corinthians 5:18-21 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

Jesus was born, lived, died, and rose yet without the sin problem we have.

- ...Yet He takes our Sin and gives us His righteousness
- ...He takes our separation and gives us His intimacy with God
- ...He took our death and gave us His LIFE...

So God does not count our sins against us, which means we have a message to give to people who are lost in sin. That message is a message of Hope, it is reconciliation with God and others.