

WHEN RELATIONSHIPS GO BAD

FUTURE FAMILY, PART 4

Pastor Ken Ritz * Oct 8, 2017 * New Life Vineyard Church

2 Corinthians 5:14-20

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again...

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ...

2 Corinthians 5:18

- Reconciliation is the process of making _____ (e.g., bank statement, locksmith).
- There was conflict between God and us. God, not us, went to work to resolve the conflict. He _____.
- Through Christ, God removed every obstacle to our reconciliation, except us.
- The only obstacle to you being reconciled to God is you.

All of this is from God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20

- Who did the reconciling? The innocent party or guilty party?
- What did that entail? Not counting people's sins against them.
- IN _____ OF . . . not _____ of...

- We are to carry this incredible message to the world—that "You can be reconciled to God in spite of your sin"—
- though some of us would have to add... "But you can't be reconciled to me because of your sin."

Objection 1: *We've tried to work it out before...*

- Did God offer to reconcile you to himself before or after you rid yourself of every sin, habit, and attitude that was offensive?

Objection 2: *It will look like I'm condoning their behavior...*

- Jesus was criticized severely because he "welcomed sinners," so you'll be even more like Jesus.

Objection 3: *They're never going to change...*

- Jesus died for all people, those that received salvation and those that didn't.

Conclusion

- Who comes to mind, that you haven't yet reconciled with?
- About whom do you tell yourself: "I don't care"?
- Would you be willing to take a step toward doing for them what your heavenly Father did for you?