



Ice breakers - Is there a time in your life when reconciliation positively impacted you? Or, would you be willing to share a time when a lack of reconciliation impacted you? Or, what are the dangers of culture creeping into the church? In what ways does this happen? Is it always bad? What are the signs of danger and how can Christians stay alert? Or, What's the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation?

#### Reconciliation Begins With God:

- 1) What can we learn from God's act of reconciliation on our behalf?
- 2) What is "the great exchange" and how is articulated in vs 14-15 and 21?
- 3) What are we to make of the reality that it seems all people are not reconciled to God? Does this mean God failed? (Facilitator - The answer is no, but rather his work of reconciliation is not yet completed (Phil 2:9). Some will reject him, but all will ultimately be reconciled at the judgement, though those who rejected him will also receive the just punishment for their rejection, that is, eternal separation from God - Matt 7:21-23, Matt 25:41-46)
- 4) How can the fact the many reject God's offer of reconciliation help us think about those situations in our lives where reconciliation is not possible, apart from miraculous, powerful work of the Spirit?

#### Reconciliation Brings Transformation

- 1) What does the love of Christ controlling us look like? vs 14
- 2) Read Gal 2:20, 1 Jn 3:16, Eph 5:1-2 - What are the implications of these verses regarding the transformation brought about by reconciliation? What will it take for us to grow into the truths individually and as a church?
- 3) How does applying Eph 6:12 help us be more effective ministers of reconciliation?

#### Reconciliation Leads To Reconciliation

- 1) How could viewing your normal daily rhythms through the lens of being a minister of reconciliation change the way you approach your responsibilities and interact with others?
- 2) How can being ministers of reconciliation help us heal and/or grow after 2020? In our homes, churches and/or communities?
- 3) Can you think of a person who models a ministry of reconciliation that we can learn from?
- 4) How does our practicing reconciliation among one another impact the way we call other to reconcile with God?

Next Sunday's sermon passage - Matthew 11:16-19