

The BOOK of ROMANS
"RECONCILIATION" (Romans 5:6-21)

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March 11-13, 2022

STEPS to RECONCILIATION

This passage teaches us how God reconciles with everyone who believes in Him. God shows us the four main components of reconciliation: forgiveness, justice, grace and eternal life. If you are struggling to find the strength to reconcile with someone, consider following God's example.

STEP.1

Since Christ died for us,
we must **die to self** and **forgive**.

STEP.2

Since Christ paid for **justice**,
we must **repair** the **wrongs**.

STEP.3

Since Christ **exchanged** our sin with grace,
we must extend **grace**.

STEP.4

Since Christ gives us **eternal life**,
we can give others hope for a **renewed life**.

Discussion Questions

Getting Started

1. Do you need to reconcile with someone? What is preventing you from renewing your relationship with this person? Lack of forgiveness? The need for justice? Or maybe you have gone as far as you can, but the other person does not want to reconcile. Share with your group why, if you can't reconcile.

Digging Deeper

2. Romans 5:6-21 contains at least six pairs of contrasting terms: Adam and Christ (5:14-15); disobedience and obedience (5:19); sin and righteousness (5:21); law and grace (5:16); death and life (5:21). Give thanks to God that He exchanges that which is bad (or becomes bad) with that which is good.
3. The apostle Paul states that there are 4 kings: death reigned (5:14); sin reigned (5:21); grace reigned (5:21); believers shall reign (5:17). Why do you think he used this terminology? Why is it important to make sure "grace reigns" in our life?

Applying the Word to Life

4. Jesus tells us to daily "die to self" (Luke 9:23; John 12:24; Matthew 10:38; Galatians 2:20). If you are struggling with forgiving someone and extending grace to them, what step do you need to take to say "no" to holding onto bitterness or hurt feelings? How can you "let go" so that the process of healing and reconciliation can begin?
5. If you have an estranged relationship, what can you do to repair the wrong? What action on your part can help heal this severed relationship? What can you do to build back trust?
6. Do you need to give someone "hope" for a renewed life with you? Is the Holy Spirit convicting you to stop manipulating the situation by playing games with this person's heart?