



Conflict happens. It's a normal part of life. And as long as we live around other people we are going to run into it - whether it's with a co-worker, family member, friend, or a complete stranger. During this 8-week series, called "Reconciled," we're going to learn biblical principles for resolving conflict, rather than avoiding or escalating it. But it all depends on the most important relationship of all – between us and God. May God transform us into people who live at peace with him, ourselves and others!

Discussion Questions: (Leaders please review each question and pick those that will be most beneficial for your group.)

1. Read 2 Corinthians 2:16-21. This passage teaches that **when you are reconciled to God you receive a whole new way of living**. First, when you are reconciled to God **you see people from a new perspective** (v.16). How does being reconciled to God change how we view people? How does it change how we see Jesus Christ? How will seeing people in this way help you face conflicts differently?
2. Next, when you are reconciled to God **you become a new person** (v.17). What does it mean to be a new creation in Jesus Christ? Is this dependent on how you feel? If you are a new creation in Christ, how will remembering this help you better face conflicts with others?
3. Finally, in this passage we see that when you are reconciled to God **you receive a new purpose** (vv.18-21). Specifically, when you are reconciled to God you become a reconciler. What does it mean to be reconciled? Looking at vv.18-19, who is responsible for reconciliation between God and men? According to v.18, to whom does God extend reconciliation? Why is this not universalism?
4. If you have been reconciled to God you are an ambassador of Jesus Christ. According to v.20 what is the message we declare as his ambassador? This verb is passive meaning we receive God's reconciliation. Also it means we do not bring about reconciliation, we only announce it. If you have received this message, God wants to make his appeal to others through you. What keeps you from declaring this message more?
5. According to v.21, reconciliation with God is only possible through the imputation of our sins to Jesus Christ and the imputation of his righteousness to us. What does imputation mean? At the cross this transaction took place, but it is only appropriated when you receive Jesus Christ by faith. Have you received God's reconciliation and made peace with God? If not, what is keeping you from being reconciled to God today? If so, who are the people in your life that need to be reconciled to God – will you pray for them regularly and ask God to give you boldness to declare his message?