



“Go....And Be Reconciled”

February 8, 2026

Matthew 5:23-24, Luke 17:1-4



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Introduction:

How would you define reconciliation? Have you ever worked through an intentional process of reconciliation?

A Framework For Resolving Conflicts :

1. Go Higher - How can I find, and honor God in this situation? How could God be glorified in this situation? (1 Cor. 10:31)

2. Get Real - How can I own my part of the conflict? (Matthew 7:3-5, James 4:1-3)

3. Gently Engage - How can I help others see their own part in the conflict? (Gal. 6:1, James 5:20)

4. Get Together - How can I offer forgiveness and arrive at reconciled relationship? (Matthew 5:23-24, Luke 17:1-4) (*Resolving Everyday Conflict - Ken Sande*)

Get Together (Matthew 5:23-24):

“So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift at the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother and then come and offer your gift at the altar”.

What are the two components needed for reconciliation?

1. _____

2. _____

(See Luke 17:1-4)

What is forgiveness?

Forgiveness is releasing someone from a penalty or punishment, it is NOT seeking revenge or retaliation for a sin or offense against you. (1 John 1:9, Eph. 1:7)

Forgiveness is a radical decision to not hold an offense against an offender.

Forgiveness ISN'T a feeling - it is an act of the will, a conscious choice which may lead to a change in feelings over time. (Matthew 18:21-22)



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Forgiveness ISN'T overlooking sin.

Forgiveness ISN'T forgetting.

Two Components of forgiveness:

Forgiveness is a **vertical commitment** between you and God, followed by a **horizontal transaction**, between you and the other person, that is to occur in the moments when sin has gotten in the way of unity in relationships" - Paul David Tripp

The horizontal transaction requires **repentance**. (See Luke 17:1-4)

What is repentance?

Repentance literally means a *change of mind*.

Repentance is necessary for salvation. (See Mark 1:15) Repentance is turning away from our way of living and unbelief and turning towards, or trusting in Jesus.

Repentance is necessary in the normal Christian life as an ongoing practice which positions us to continue in an intimate relationship with God.

Repentance is necessary, as we are all growing in maturity and to overcome the patterns of living, in our relationships within the body of Christ. (1 John 1:5-10)

Genuine repentance should bear fruit over time (Matthew 3:7-10)

Repentance is a *change of mind* followed by a *change in actions*.

Other Thoughts on Reconciliation:

We can't force reconciliation; it takes the willing involvement of both parties.

Matthew 18 :15-20 is the process Jesus lays out for resolving conflicts. An important principle seems to be keep the number of people involved to the smallest amount possible.

If you have tried going one on one, and have tried taking 1-2 other persons, it should then be brought to church leadership.

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