

**BAD
BLOOD**
SERMON SERIES • APRIL 3 - 17

Sermon Notes
April 10, 2016
“A Confrontation or Conversation”
Matthew 18:15, 5:23-24

I. Introduction and review

- A. The “*Best of Enemies*” describes how two people _____ their bad blood.
- B. You can have _____ about the relationship even without peace in the relationship.
- C. The path to peace is paved with _____.

II. Jesus’ advice on bad blood

- A. In Matthew 5 and 18, Jesus talks about _____ the bad-blood relationships in our lives.
- B. If you’ve been wronged or you’ve wronged someone, Jesus says to _____ and have a conversation with them.
- C. Before making things right with _____, you need to make things right with others.
 - 1) When you’ve been hurt take the first step and forgive.
 - 2) When you’ve hurt someone take the first step and repent.

III. How to go

- A. Go _____.
- B. Go _____.
- C. Go _____.

Things I would like to remember about this message

Asbury Daily Study Guide

Monday: Matthew 5:23–24

People of the Jewish faith, in the first century, would make trips to Jerusalem to make an offering to God to pay for the sins that they had committed during the year. Jesus says they should leave their gifts at the altar if they have bad blood with someone else. He says before making things right with God you must make things right with others. Has your bad blood with another person ever affected the quality of your relationship with God? If so, what did you do?

Tuesday: Matthew 18:15

Jesus says you must go and have a conversation with someone who has wronged you. When you think about following Jesus' advice in this verse, what is your gut reaction? What do you find challenging about what Jesus says?

Wednesday: Matthew 6:9-15 and Luke 11:1-4

Jesus says that forgiveness is a "two-way street." Why is forgiving others an important part of the experience of God's forgiveness? In what ways does forgiving a wrong you have suffered change your heart? How does forgiving help us understand more about our relationship with one another? With God?

Thursday: Ephesians 4

In Ephesians 4, Paul has a great deal to say to the new churches about harmony in community. He speaks of the church being the body with Christ as the head. In what ways does this passage give us guidelines for harmonious functioning within the family? Within the church? Within community?

Friday: Genesis 33:1-11

In this passage, we read about Esau and Jacob meeting after many years. The issue of the birthright was the wedge that drove them apart. In ancient times, the first-born son received the birthright—a double portion of the father's assets upon his death. Jacob coveted this; Esau was ambivalent (see Genesis 25:29-33). Jacob stole the birthright. Now, after long years of separation, the brothers meet again. If you were Jacob, what kinds of feelings would you have prior to this meeting? What about Esau—what might he feel? What surprises you about the outcome? Why was there an amicable resolution?

MOVING FORWARD

If you have bad blood, don't wait another minute. Don't fool yourself into thinking that God is okay with your bad blood. He wants you to do all you can do to bring peace. Before making things right with God, make things right with others. Making peace with others clears the path to making peace with God. Imagine how God feels about that.

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) overcame, B) peace, C) empathy. IIA) restoring, B) go, IIC) God. IIIA) immediately, B) directly, C) humbly.