



SERMON NOTES

Week 1 April 23, 2023

"Instructions Not Included"

Philippians 2:5; Luke 5:31-32



I. It's Not My Fault

- A. The question we normally ask about our broken relationships is "What's wrong with _____?"
- B. We attempt to _____ our broken relationships with one of these approaches: convince, convict, coerce, control.

II. It Doesn't Come Naturally

- A. Fixing a broken relationship is not _____. Our initial moves are almost always the wrong moves.
- B. Fixing a broken relationship is a _____ skill.
- C. The goal in repairing relationships is not _____. The goal is simply no regrets.

III. The Mindset of Jesus Christ

- A. When it comes to reconciliation, _____ is only half the equation.
- B. In our relationships we are to have the same approach as _____.
- C. Jesus says, "I can forgive from a distance, but I can't reconcile from a distance." Reconciliation requires _____.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *April 24-29, 2023*

INTRODUCTION

House flipping (purchasing a rundown house, fixing it up, and reselling it) has become increasingly popular over the last few years. The popularity of flipping shows such as HGTV's *Fixer Upper* and *Flip or Flop* probably has something to do with it. Although many people attempt to fix up a home, very few people know how to fix a relationship that is broken. When it comes to repairing relationships, no one responds well to being convinced, coerced, convicted, or controlled. Yet we try those approaches over and over again.

Monday: Matthew 5:23-24

Jesus makes it clear to the disciples how important it is in reconciling our relationships with others. If someone were to examine your past (and perhaps current) strained relationships, what grade would they give you in terms of the effort you put into repairing those relationships? Why?

Tuesday: 1 Samuel 19

Saul's way of handling conflict in a relationship was to try and kill his son-in law. We don't handle conflict that way in our lives, but we do have our own flawed approaches. Which of these four relational tools talked about in the sermon do you reach for first when conflict arises: convince, coerce, convict, or control?

Wednesday: 1 Samuel 24

David spent many years running and hiding from King Saul. Do you have friends or family members who are estranged from members of their families? From where you sit, what's keeping the feuds alive?

Thursday: Romans 12:9-21

In verse 18, the Apostle Paul tells the Christians in Rome "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone." If you are estranged from a friend or family member, what's stopping you from taking steps to repair it?

Friday: Philippians 2:1-8

What stands out to you? How could applying some of the phrases you read help you take steps in repairing a relationship?

MOVING FORWARD

Fixing a broken relationship is not intuitive, it is a learned skill; and if we are Jesus' followers, reconciling relationships is not optional, so it's a skill we need to learn. The Apostle Paul tells us that we need to have the same mindset as Christ Jesus in our relationships. Jesus humbled himself so that we could be reconciled to our heavenly Father. This week, think about a broken relationship you have and ask yourself this question: "What's stopping me from trying?"

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) them, B) repair. IIA) intuitive, B) learned, C) reconciliation. IIIA) forgiveness, B) Jesus, C) proximity.