



SERMON NOTES

Week 2 April 30, 2023

“First Steps”

Philippians 2:5; Romans 12:9–10, 14–17



I. Introduction / Review

- A. We attempt to _____ our broken relationships with one of these approaches: convince, convict, coerce, control.
- B. Fixing a broken relationship is a _____ skill.
- C. The goal in repairing relationships is not _____. The goal is simply no regrets.

II. Decision #1

- A. Reconciliation always begins with _____ regardless of who initiated the fuss.
- B. Decision #1 - I will get back “to” him/her; I will _____ get back “at” him/her.

III. The Mindset of Jesus in Relationships – Paul’s Letter to the Church in Rome

- A. A sincere love: The goal is to get to the place where I am able to see that other person the way _____ sees that person. (Romans 12:9)
- B. To honor one another above ourselves is to put their needs _____. (Romans 12:10)
- C. We are to _____ those who persecute us. (Romans 12:14)
- D. Don’t celebrate people’s _____. (Romans 12:15)
- E. _____ ignites and fuels all four of the C’s in trying to repair a relationship. (Romans 12:16)
- F. Human nature is to get back at someone. God’s will is to get back _____ someone. (Romans 12:17).

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *May 1-6, 2023*

INTRODUCTION

We are far better at assembling things than we are at fixing them, and that includes relationships. Our initial reaction to repairing relationships is to use one of these four approaches: convince, convict, coerce, control. However, that will not draw us close to anyone. In our relationships we are called to have the same mindset as Christ Jesus. So what does that look like when a relationship is broken?

Monday: Romans 5:8-10.

Although we were sinners, God made a move toward us so that he could reconcile humanities relationship with Him. What's your initial reaction to the notion that *reconciliation begins with us, regardless of who initiated the fuss*? Is your response to a strained relationship usually "I will get back at" or "I will get back to"?

Tuesday: Romans 12:9-10

A sincere love is one where we can see someone the way God sees them. God does not hate the person you have a broken relationship with, God is not happy with the situation of the broken relationship. To honor someone is to say "you first, your issue first, your question first, your observation first, you first." What key words stand out to you in this passage? Who could you show more honor to and in what way?

Wednesday: Romans 12:14-17

What key words stand out to you in this passage? What comes to mind in that passage as something you need to pay attention to?

Thursday: Matthew 5:43-48

If you had to fill in the blank, whose name would you write? "Heavenly Father, help me see _____ the way you do. Help me feel toward _____ what you feel."

Friday: Proverbs 11:2, Proverbs 16:5, Proverbs 16:18

Pride ignites and fuels all four of the C's (convince, convict, coerce, and control) in trying to repair a relationship. All four of the C's are an attempt to prove that I'm right and you're wrong, and "if you would just see the world the way I see it and do what I think you ought to do, then the world would be a better place and our relationship would be healed." On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 meaning not at all and 10 meaning all the time) how much do you struggle with pride? What can you do to keep it under control?

MOVING FORWARD

Repairing a relationship requires someone to initiate, regardless of who's to blame for the fallout. Decision #1 in reconciling a relationship is to get back *to* him/her, instead of getting back *at* him/her. This is the will of God. There's a simple prayer you can learn to help you take that first step: *Heavenly Father, help me to see him/her the way you do. Help me to feel toward him/her what you feel.*

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) repair, B) learned. C) reconciliation. IIA) us, B) not.
IIIA) God, B) first, C) bless, D) misfortune, E) Pride, F) to.