



SERMON NOTES

Week 3 May 7, 2023

“The Man in the Mirror”

Matthew 7:3–5, 11:28-30; Romans 12:18



I. Introduction / Review

- A. One of the best ways to get back ‘to’ rather than get back ‘at’, is to take a slice of the _____ pie.
- B. We attempt to _____ our broken relationships with one of these approaches: convince, convict, coerce, control.
- C. There are three _____ we use that keep us from trying to reconcile a relationship:
 - a. I don’t care.
 - b. I’ve already tried.
 - c. It’s not my fault anyway.

II. Hypocrites

- A. The first question Jesus asks us is "why are you so focused on what _____ did?" (Matthew 7:3)
- B. The second question Jesus asks us is “how can you be so certain that you see as _____ as you think you do?" (Matthew 7:4)
- C. Restoring or fixing a broken relationship requires self-_____. (Matthew 7:5)

III. Second Decision

- A. Second Decision – I will _____ my slice of the blame pie.
- B. Reconciliation always begins in the _____.
- C. The more aware I am of what God has yet to do in _____, the less aware I am and the less consumed I am with what he has yet to do in the people around me.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *May 8-13, 2023*

INTRODUCTION

Our first approach to reconciling relationships is to use one of the following approaches: convince, convict, coerce and control. When that doesn't work, we tend to fall into making one of three excuses: I don't care, I've already tried, and It's not my fault. But as Jesus' followers, reconciliation needs to begin with us, regardless of who initiated the fuss. So what should we do?

Monday: Galatians 1:18-19, Acts 9:26-27

Paul had bad relationships with people on both sides. He had people that he had persecuted, tormented, and caused trouble with; and now he's trying to have a relationship with them. And then he had people on the other side that he used to be friends with, used to be co-workers with, used to be on the same team; and now all of a sudden, he was an enemy. When has one of your relationships gone from good to bad in the blink of an eye? How did you respond?

Tuesday: Genesis 27:1-41

Jacob deceived his father and stole his brother Esau's blessing. Esau was angry and vowed to kill Jacob. It looked like their relationship would never be restored. However, many years later they overcame their bad blood for each other and reconciled. What is the most difficult relationship you've ever had to repair? What did you learn from that experience?

Wednesday: Romans 12:9-21

What key words stand out? Do those key words bring to mind something in any of your relationships? Why?

Thursday: Matthew 7:3-5

What key words stand out? Do those key words bring to mind something in any of your relationships? Why?

Friday: 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 a broken relationship with someone else. He says before making things right with God you must make things right with others. Is there anyone you feel the need to reconcile with? What percentage of the blame pie do you own? Are you willing to make the first move?

MOVING FORWARD

Restoring or fixing a broken relationship requires self-awareness. Instead of focusing on what the other person's faults are, we need to look in the mirror. So the second decision we must make in order to pave the way for reconciliation is: "I will own my slice of the blame pie." The more aware I am of what God has yet to do in me, the less aware I am and the less consumed I am with what he has yet to do in the people around me. This week commit Romans 12:18 to memory.

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) blame, B) reconcile, C) excuses. IIA) they, B) clearly, IIC) awareness, IIIA) own, B) mirror, C) me.