

**How To Become Wiser In Relationships (3 of 4)
“A Heart Of Reconciliation”
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Rich Sherwood
May 28, 2023**

Big Idea: If we want healthier relationships, we must apply God’s wisdom/truth.

2 Corinthians 5:16-21:

¹⁶ So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now!

¹⁷ This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

¹⁸ And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.

¹⁹ For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sins against them And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.

²⁰ So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!”

²¹ For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

Notes: _____

To have a heart of reconciliation, I will:

- [] Confess my part of the conflict with humility.
- [] Practice affirmation.
- [] Focus on reestablishing the relationship.

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Begin with prayer.

Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Read Ephesians 4:32 NLT:

“Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.”

Why is forgiveness so hard?

What are some of the things that you have a hard time forgiving?

Read Colossians 3:13 NLT:

“Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”

How do you think pride and humility affect your ability to make allowances for others?

Read Matthew 18:21-22 NLT:

“Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?” “No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven!”

Peter seemed to be asking if there was a limit to how much he needed to forgive somebody. It’s probably a good thing that God does not ask that question to us.

Read Mark 11:25 NLT:

“But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.”

Read Matthew 6:14-15 NLT

“If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

Many times in scriptures, it seems that our forgiveness from God is related to how we forgive others. What are your thoughts?

Close in Prayer.