



Sermon Discussion Guide

Broad Branches: Ambassadors of God's Reconciliation - Tim Knipp Date

Hook - Getting to know one another

- *How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.*
 - *What is the best reconciliation story you have ever heard? This could be between people you know, in a movie, book, etc!*
 - *What do you think it is about these stories that sticks out to you so much? What about them appeals to your heart?*
 - *Why do you think our hearts resist reconciliation?*
 - *Why do you think our hearts long for reconciliation?*

Book - Scripture

2 Cor 5:16 - 21

- *Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand **what the text is saying**:*
 - *Who is mentioned in this passage?*
 - *What are they doing?*
 - *It seems as though this passage is hinting at an "old way" of doing things and a "new way".*
 - *What is the old way?*
 - *What is being encouraged to happen from now on?*
 - *Who is "us" referring to in this passage? Do you think that is referring to people at the time or is that possibly meant for today?*
 - *What do you think it means to "become the righteousness of God?" (v.21)*

Look - Connections to our world today

- *This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.*
 - *In your own words what does reconciliation mean?*



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- *You can pull up a dictionary if you'd like.*
- *What does reconciliation look like between people who are imperfect and in need of a savior and God who is perfect and holy?*
- *What would our world be like without reconciliation between each other? What about between us and God?*
 - *What would the world look like if we hopped on the cancel culture train and there was no room restoring broken relationships?*
- *How has Jesus reconciled us to God?*
- *Why do you think God decided to send Jesus to reconcile us to Him? What made Jesus qualified?*
- *What does it say about God that He would send His son to reconcile us to Him?*
- *Through Jesus we have now ourselves been sent as ambassadors of God's reconciliation in the world. It is like God is making a personal appeal through us to reconcile people to Him.*
 - *How can we be ambassadors of God's reconciliation? How can we help reconcile people with God?*
 - *What makes us qualified to be ambassadors of this reconciliation?*
 - *What are ways in our cultural context we can reach out to people who don't already know Jesus?*
 - *What are some ways you want to embrace the messiness of mission in our world today?*

Took - Personal Application

- *This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.*
 - *Going from the concept to the practical...*



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- *What could this idea of us being ambassadors of this reconciliation to God look like...actually?*
 - *At work? In our families? At school? With our friends? With the grocery store clerk? With the guy who honked at you and gave you the finger even though you are pretty sure he cut you off?*
 - *Think about the brief interactions you may have and the long term relationships!*
 - *Who are the people in your life who you can reach out to?*
 - *Maybe it feels impossible for these people to come to know Jesus. During prayer time, pray these "impossible" prayers together.*

Time of Prayer