

Family TableTalk

Conversation 64

Reconciled

read

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

think

in really important
alienated from Him; it taints everything.

What happens when a relationship goes bad? Trust is replaced by suspicion, insecurity, anxiety, and anger. When each side focuses on their own desires, things go from bad to worse. Sometimes things get so bad that we lose hope it will ever improve. It is a miserable way to live. It's even worse when alienation develops relationships. And since the most important relationship is with God, when we are alienated from Him; it taints everything. Thankfully, God doesn't write us off. He restores broken relationships.

Jesus did everything necessary to reconcile our relationship with God. But it wasn't easy. In fact, it cost Jesus his life. When we understand what Jesus did so that we could be reconciled with God, it changes the way we view the broken relationships we have with other people. When we link ourselves to Jesus, our old self dies with its self-centered perspective, and we are made new creations with a new vision for life.

Once we are at peace with God, He gives us the ministry of reconciliation. As ambassadors of our King, we represent His character, His authority, and His message. God makes His appeal through us as we implore others to be reconciled to God.

apply

- What type of relief do you feel when a relationship is made right again?
- How does God reconcile us with himself? How does that help us to work for reconciliation with others?
- An ambassador's job is to represent the interests of the king. What are the interests of King Jesus? What would it look like to be an ambassador for Christ with your friends and family?

pray

Lord, you are a God of reconciliation. You desire for us to be in a right relationship with you and you took the initiative to make that possible. Thank you for restoring our broken relationship through Christ's sacrificial love displayed on the cross. Forgive us for focusing so much of our time on our desires, our wants, and our needs in relationships. Help us to humble ourselves and please give us courage to be ambassadors for Christ in this world.

by **Marty Kieffer**

Marty Kieffer is a pastor's wife and mom of 5 kids, age 10-17. She partnered with her husband in college ministry for over 20 years and is currently full-time manager of their busy home.

cpyu.org  **CPYU**
CENTER FOR PARENT/YOUTH UNDERSTANDING

© 2020 Center For Parent/Youth Understanding