



CONNECT

The end of Daylight Saving Time is almost here, which means winter is just around the corner. Do you like or dislike Daylight Saving Time? What is your favorite season?

REVIEW

What is reconciliation? Explain the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation. What is the danger of confusing the two?

Read Genesis 44:16. Why is Judah's confession here so important for reconciliation? Why is reconciliation impossible without confession?

Compare Genesis 37 and Genesis 44. How did Joseph's brothers act toward Jacob's favorite son in Genesis 37? In Genesis 44? What do these differences show us?

Why is transformation so important for reconciliation? Why is reconciliation impossible without transformation? Have you ever tried to restore a relationship with someone without first seeing transformation? What was the result?

During our sermon, we talked about the high cost of reconciliation. In what ways does reconciliation come with a high cost? For the guilty party? For the "injured party"?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21. Explain how reconciliation models the gospel to those around us.



STUDY

Read Acts 15:36-41. Why do Paul and Barnabas separate?

- Looking at this from Paul's point of view, list some reasons for his position.
- Looking at this from Barnabas's point of view, list some reasons for his position.
- Imagine that you have been asked to mediate between these two men. Using what you learned from Joseph and his brothers, walk through how you would point Paul and Barnabas to reconciliation.

Read 2 Timothy 4:11. Reconciliation can be tough and sometimes can seem impossible. How does this verse give us hope? Think of your own broken relationships; how does it give you hope for these specific relationships?

APPLY

Take some time individually to answer the following questions:

- With whom is God nudging me to reconcile?
- Am I willing to pursue reconciliation?
- How can I reach out today?

If you are comfortable, share your answers to the second and third questions (or all three).