



Reconciled: Reconciled with God

December 1 & 2, 2018 – John Ortberg

Note to Leaders: Every group is different, so we are providing a summary study with additional discussion questions in the Going Deeper section. Please choose the questions that relate best to your particular group.

Follow up from last week: Share how reflecting on the four “selves” (Public, Private, Real, Glory Self) affected you this week.

Connect

1. What was memorable about this week’s sermon on reconciliation with God?
2. Share with the group why you think reconciliation is difficult.

Engage

1. Read 2 Corinthians 5:19.
 - Why did/do we need reconciliation with God?
 - How does Christ reconcile us with God?
 - What does Paul mean by the ministry of reconciliation?
2. Read Matthew 1:1-3.
 - Tamar was a Canaanite woman who married into Judah’s family and ends up as part of Jesus’s family history. What is the significance of Matthew naming her in the genealogy that introduces Jesus?
 - Why does God use “outsiders” to be part of the Christ story?

Apply

1. How does the story of Tamar and other people normally regarded as “other” in Biblical times (e.g. Ruth (non-Hebrew), Bathsheba (Israelite with whom King David did wrong)) apply to you?
2. In which area(s) of your life do you need reconciliation with God?
3. How will you live out the message this week that we are reconciled with God through Christ?

Pray

Take some time to pray individually to God for help in the reconciliation process. Have the group leader close the prayer time by asking God for courage and openness for each person to be fully reconciled with God.



Going Deeper

Connect

1. If you're comfortable, share with the group a relationship in your life that needs reconciliation.
2. Identify areas in our society that need reconciliation.

Engage

1. Read Romans 12:14
 - What does Paul say to do when someone persecutes you? How is this possible?
2. Read Luke 7: 41-42
 - What does Luke say about the relationship between the amount of debt forgiven and how grateful the one forgiven is?
 - What does this teach us about the Apostle Paul's instruction in the previous passage (Romans 12:14)?

Serving Opportunity

Welcome our neighbors at Christmastime by volunteering at one (or more!) of our Christmas services. Sign up at menlo.church/christmasserving.

Personal Spiritual Practice Idea/experiment

In preparation for next week's worship service, spend some time this week considering where you have relationships that are in need of reconciliation.

Christmas Services 2018

Over 60% of Americans are open to being invited to church by a family member, friend, or neighbor. If you are not planning to volunteer at one of our worship services, make sure you extend an invitation and bring someone along!

[South City](#) - Sunday, December 23 at 10:00am and 11:30am

[San Mateo](#) - Sunday, December 23 at 8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30am, 3:30pm, and 5:00pm

[Menlo Park](#) - Saturday, December 22 at 5:00pm
Sunday, December 23 at 8:30am, 10:00am and 11:30am
Monday, December 24 at 1:30pm, 3:00pm, 4:30pm, *6:00pm, *7:30pm, and *9:00pm

[Café in Menlo Park](#) - Sunday, December 23 at 8:30am and 10:00am

[Mountain View](#) - Sunday, December 23 at 8:30am, 10:00am, *11:30am, and *5:00pm

[Saratoga](#) - Sunday, December 23 at 9:00am, 10:30am, and 5:00pm

[San Jose](#) - Sunday, December 23 at 4:30pm and 6:00pm

*No Menlo Kids Ministry Offered

This resource and additional sermon study guides are available at menlo.church/leaderresources.



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Send questions to info@menlo.church