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## 1. THE <u>PRIORITY</u> OF RECONCILIATION

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 (ESV)- For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died and <u>he died for all, that those who live might no longer</u> <u>live for themselves but for him</u> who for their sake died and was raised.

I Corinthians 16:14 (ESV)- Let all that you do be done in love.

I John 4:7 (ESV)- Beloved, let us love one another, <u>for love is from</u> <u>God</u>, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

I Corinthians 13:1 (ESV)- If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, <u>but have not love</u>, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, <u>but have not love</u>, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, <u>but have not love</u>, I gain nothing.

2 Corinthians 5:16 (ESV)-<u>From now on, therefore, we regard no one</u> <u>according to the flesh.</u> Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.

## 2. THE <u>PROCESS</u> OF RECONCILIATION

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)- Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Philippians 2:12b-13 (ESV)-...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Romans 7:19-21 (ESV)- For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand.

## 3. THE <u>PROMISE</u> OF RECONCILIATION

2 Corinthians 5:18 (ESV)-<u>All this is from God</u>, who <u>through Christ</u> reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;

Philippians 1:6 (ESV)- <u>And I am sure of this</u>, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 2:13 (ESV)- for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

## 4. THE <u>PURPOSE</u> OF RECONCILIATION

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 (ESV)-\_All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and <u>gave us the ministry of reconciliation</u>; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and <u>entrusting to us the message of reconciliation</u>. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, <u>God making his appeal through us</u>. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

Philippians 2:15 (ESV)- that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

**Here Is The Point:** Because God loves us he reconciled us and gave us the ministry of reconciliation! (and because we love him and people we lead others to reconciliation!) 2 Corinthians 5:14 (ESV)- For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; 15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. 16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.[b] The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling[c] the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

I john 4: Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.