

Dear Friends in Christ:

Praise the Name of Jesus Who is our pathway to Reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

Normally we think of reconciliation in terms of bringing two people together to settle differences. In doing so we work toward some kind of compromise, each person giving a little to find an answer or solution. With God we find a dilemma. God is a Holy God and cannot move from His position of Holiness so we have to be brought to God.

To accomplish this God sent Jesus to bridge the gap and provide a pathway back to God. "God was in Christ" to restore us back into right relationship with Himself. In this wonderful relationship we find true Love, Peace, Joy, Rest, Fellowship, Communion and purpose of life. In fact we find everything we ever wanted in life. Everything we were ever meant to be. Through reconciliation we become the "Righteousness of God in Christ." Now that we are the righteousness of God in Christ we are given the ministry of reconciliation, that is, bringing people into right relationship with God and with each other. The only way we can do this is to bring people into right relationship with God first and then to each other. Things equal to the same thing are equal to each other. If we love God, then we will love each other. Let us look at some verses.

1John 4:20-21 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.

1 John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."

Ephesians 5:25 "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,"

I love the words, <u>"God was in Christ"</u>. God is also in us bringing reconciliation to all who want to have an abundant life as well as eternal life. Once they are right with God they will be right with each other. Praise God for reconciliation!!!!!

Thank you so much for your love, prayers, fellowship and support. ><>Wayne and Jessie<><