

# Home Group Helps

2 Corinthians 5:18-21

## *The Ministry of Reconciliation*

**I. The Means of Reconciliation (18a & b, 19a)** – <sup>18</sup> Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ . . . <sup>19</sup> namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself

**II. The Meaning of Reconciliation (19b, 21)** - not counting their trespasses against them . . . <sup>21</sup> He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him

**III. The Ministry of Reconciliation (v.18c, 19c, 20)** – and gave us the ministry of reconciliation . . . and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation . . . <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

# Home Group Helps

2 Corinthians 5:18-21

## *The Ministry of Reconciliation*

### 1. Launching Question(s):

- What might be an example, in human history or even in your own life, where bitter enemies became friends?

### 2. Observation Question(s):

- Paul begins this passage by stating, “Now all *these* things are from God who reconciled us to Himself through Christ” (v.18a).
- Who gets the credit for reconciling us?
- How does He reconcile us (and through whom)?
- Read Eph. 2:1-4. Can we reconcile ourselves to God in our own effort?

### 3. Interpretation Question(s):

- Paul states that “God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself” (v.19a).
- Is he teaching universalism (that all people go to heaven)?
- What does he mean by “the world?”
- Vs. 21 states, “He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf.”
- Why is it so important that we know that Christ was sinless?

### 4. Reflection Question(s):

- What is an ambassador? What does he do?
- How should the statement in vs. 20 motivate us: “we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us.”

### 5. Application Question(s):

- How might you be a better “ambassador for Christ” this week?