

Hope Presbyterian Church
Sermon-Based Bible Study Group



September 3, 2023 - "Reconciliation" - #3 in the series Confronting Conflict

Text Referenced: 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21 NIV

1. What stood out to you about the message?
2. Think about what it means to hold a grudge - a persistent feeling of ill will or resentment resulting from a past injury or insult.
 - What aspects of a grudge make it an example of conflict?
 - If anyone has ever held a grudge against you, how did it feel?
3. **Read 2 Corinthians 5: 16-19(a)**
 - How does Paul's reference to a former "worldly point of view" about Jesus help us think about the idea of reconciliation?
 - Paul's use of the Greek word for reconciliation - *katallage* - means restoring favor to a state of harmony.
 - Why is the idea of reconciliation difficult to grasp in our spiritual and secular contexts?
 - What is the role of truth in the reconciliation process?
4. **Read 2 Corinthians 5: 19(b) - 21.**
 - How does the "message of reconciliation" we have received connect with how we are to confront conflict?
 - What must we learn and understand about ourselves and others to be a reconciler?
 - How do you respond to the idea that reconciliation of a conflict may not be possible?
5. How can we pray for you?