

CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RECONCILIATION

This is a process by which we bring back or restore good relationship that had been broken between two individual or group of people. As children of God, when relationship is broken, it is very important to come together again. This is because as long as there is no reconciliation there is no peace, unity and co-operation between the two and those around them. The one who is wronged becomes bitter and builds up hate for his friend and everybody around him. The two refuses to talk to each other. This leads to quarrelling which is as a result of abuse from each other. Most times they end up fighting with one another and both get injured. Therefore, we need to restore the broken relationship that once existed.

Conditions Necessary for Reconciliation

There are two conditions necessary for reconciliation to take place.

- A. **REPENTANCE:** It means feeling sorry for our bad behaviours or actions and making a sincere promise to be of good behaviour.
- B. **FORGIVENESS:** Meaning going to the person we have wronged to ask for pardon for our misconduct, it also means to let go

WAY OF RECONCILING

1. **SHAKING HANDS:** This is one of the commonest means of reconciling with those we have offended. If the offender can admit his or her fault and accept to shake hands then reconciliation will take place.
2. **EMBRACING:** When a relationship is broken and they no longer speak with each other, when the guilty pardon accept his fault and apologizes then they can embrace each other which is a sign of reconciliation.

3. **SAY I AM SORRY:** Some people finds it very difficult to say sorry, which is usually sign of pride or arrogance that makes them reluctant to say sorry, but if they admits to say sorry, reconciliation will take place.
4. **GIVING GIFT:** Another form of reconciliation is giving gift. The gift is a sign that the offender accepts full reconciliation.
5. **FORGIVING AND FORGETTING:** To forgive means to overlook or let go the offence that has been committed.
6. **SENDING MESSAGES AND CARD.**

THE PARABLE OF THE PRODIGAL SON (Luck. 15:4 - 32)

There were two brothers living with their father. The younger brother said to his father one day; give me my share of the family properties. The father gave him and he went to a far country where he lavished all the wealth in useless living. He became very poor and began to beg for food. He was employed to take care of the pig.

After suffering for a while, when he came to his senses, he said I will arise and go to my father, He decided to go back to his father and ask for forgiveness. As he got close to their house, his father who has been looking out for him saw him first and ran towards him. His father did not even allow him to apologise before he forgave him.

The father embraced him, kissed him and organised a welcome party for him and killed the fattest calf. The elder son was not happy for all this but the father told him "My son all I have is yours" let us eat and make marry, because this my son was dead and is alive again, he was lost and now he is found.

NOT OF LESSON FOR WEEK 3

JACOB REONCILES WITH HIS BROTHER ESAU (Gen. 32:1 - 21)

Jacob and Esau was a hunter while Jacob was a plain man, dwelling in tents. Esau being the first son was supposed to have the birthright of the family, but he sold it away to Jacob for a meal of pottage because he was hungry. Birthright is the right and privileges enjoyed by the first sons in the family.

Also with the help of Rebekah and due to greed, Jacob cheated Esau and took away his blessing from their father. Esau was very angry with Jacob for his action and wanted to kill him. Due to this Jacob ran to his uncle, labour in the land of Haran in order to take refuge there.

At Haran, Jacob worked for his uncle and became very prosperous but he was still worried and guilty for his actions towards the brother. He became sorry for his bad actions and behaviour and decided to go back to his brother and ask for forgiveness.

Jacob set out with his family and servants, with a lot of gifts to meet Esau. He equally prayed to God to grant him success in reconciling with his brother. He first of all sent his servants to trace Esau and inform him of his intentions to meet him.

Finally, the two brothers came face to face. As soon as Jacob saw Esau, he bowed down to the ground seven times to show humility. Esau ran towards Jacob and embraced him. He fell on his neck and kissed him and both of them wept.

HUMAN RELATIONSHIP: This is an interaction amongst a people, it is a way people come together to develop closeness among themselves.

RELATIONSHIP IN THE FAMILY: A family consist of a people who are related by blood and live together in a home. The two types of family are – nuclear and extended family.

NUCLEAR FAMILY: Consist of father mother and their children

EXTENDED FAMILY: Is a large one consisting of the relatives of the parents in the nuclear family e.g uncle, aunts, nephews, nieces, grandparents, cousins etc

All the members of the family have their different roles to play in the home.

CONCEPTS AND MARKS OF A GOOD FAMILY NAME

This involves protection and maintaining the good name of our family to make it acceptable and respected in the society we can achieve this by:

- i. Doing good thins expected of us
- ii. Respecting others
- iii. Avoid what will tarnish the family name
- iv. Maintaining love, unity, honest and faithfulness at home

The Bible said, a good name is better than precious ointment.

NOT OF LESSON FOR WEEK 4

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

We develop close, personal and intimate relationship with God through reading the Bible, worshipping and praising God. Prayer is the most important way we relate and communicate with God in our day to day relationship with Him.

PRAYER: (Lk 6:12 – 13) Means talking to God. It is a means by which we communicate with God. When we imbibe the habit of praying constantly to God we come close to Him.

Jesus is our role model in prayer. He prayed to God at all time, even before choosing his disciples. He also taught us how to pray through our Lord's prayer. The Apostles Creed is article of faith as Christians. It is also a form of prayer in which we express our faith in God as a loving, caring and merciful God.

TYPES OF PRAYER

1. Thanksgiving
2. Confession
3. Supplication - asking for things from God
4. Intercession - pleading for others

BENEFITS OF GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

- a. Strength at all times
- b. Confidence in God
- c. Grace to overcome temptation
- d. Answers to prayer
- e. God's protection and provision
- f. Abundant blessings
- g. Eternal life etc.

WAYS THROUGH WHICH GOD TALKS TO US

- ❖ Through our parents
- ❖ Through the Bible
- ❖ Through dreams
- ❖ Through vision/trance
- ❖ Through prophecies
- ❖ Through other people like our teachers
- ❖ Priest, elders, teacher etc

WAYS OF MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

- ❖ Through daily prayer
- ❖ Reading the Bible
- ❖ Living a life of worship to God
- ❖ By loving one another
- ❖ By forgiving one another
- ❖ Living a holy life

NOTE OF LESSON FOR 5TH WEEK

RELATIONSHIP IN THE SCHOOL

The school helps to promote higher level of relationship in a child. The school is made up of different members e.g

- a. The principal / head teacher
- b. The teacher
- c. Prefects
- d. Students
- e. Non - tutorial staff etc

The school is guided by rules and regulation (a code of conduct).

CHOOSING FRIENDS IN THE SCHOOL

A friend is someone who is very close to us. At first when we came into the school newly, we were strangers to each other. As time goes on, we are able to choose some of our schoolmates to become our friends

FACTORS TO CONSIDER BEFORE CHOOSING OUR FRIENDS

1. Family background
2. Behaviour and temperament
3. Common interest, goal and aspiration
4. Religion
5. Age group
6. A person with good qualities like, bravery, trust in God, fears God, faithful, obedient, devoted and reliable

FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN DAVID AND JONATHAN (1 SAM 18:1 - 5)

Jonathan was the son of Saul, the first king of Isreal. David was the son of Jesse, a shepherd boy, during the fight between Israel and the Philistines. The philistines had a very tall and strong man named Goliath. All this men in Israel were afraid of him. The king said any one who could kill Goliath would marry his daughter. David was a brave boy who trusted in the Lord, He told King Saul that, with the help of the Lord he would kill Goliath and the Lord helped him kill Goliath.

David then came to live in the house of king Saul, and married his daughter.

The moment Jonathan saw David he like him and chose him as his friend. He gave David some presents as a mark of their friendship. He gave him his robe, a bow, arrow and girdle.

THE FRIEND AT MID-NIGHT (Lk. 11:5 - 13)

There were two friends who live in a certain town. One day, one of them had a visitor in the night. He had no food to give his visitor. He went over to his friend and told him to give some food for his visitor. At first the friend did not want to, but he kept begging and begging before he could agree to help him.

HOW THEY HELPS US TO CHOOSE GOOD FRIENDS

The story of David and Jonathan and that of the friend at mid-night helps us to check out for some good qualities before choosing a friend.

The story of David and Jonathan teaches us to choose friends who are:

- ❖ Brave
- ❖ Have the fear of God
- ❖ Love for God

The story of the friend at Midnight teaches us that some friends are not

- ❖ Kind
- ❖ Not reliable and
- ❖ Not ready to help us unless we beg them over and over again. Such friends are not good. They may disappoint us when we need them most.

Therefore, in choosing friends we should look out for people with qualities like:

- ❖ Bravery - Trust in God
- ❖ Fear the Lord - Faithful
- ❖ Obedient - Devoted to God
- ❖ Reliable

People with such good qualities would make good friends.

PERIOD 2

Consequences of bad friendship (Prov. 1: 10, 2Thes. 3:6 – 13)

Not all friends are good, there are bad friends that pretend to be good.

Bad friends will lead you into:

1. Fornication: persuade you to engage in sex before marriage.
2. Lesbianism: Girls having sex with each other.
3. Stealing: Make you steal people's things or money.
4. Engage in watching dirty film like pornographic films and may ask you to go to their homes and watch such films when their parents are not around
5. Drink alcohol
6. Cultism
7. Homosexuality
8. Smoking
9. Drug trafficking
10. Truants
11. Lazy and eventually fail your exam.

Being in bad friendship will make you ruin the good name of your family and your parents will end up with teenage pregnancy or become drug addicts and your education will be seriously affected.

Proverb 1:10

My son, if a sinner entice you, do not consent