



Reconciling Christmas

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Idea: *If God and sinners can be reconciled, what about sinners and sinners?*

Introduction

1. Reconciling with someone who has wronged us or wronged someone we love is not intuitive, comfortable, or even necessary in some cases.
2. But sometimes, it is necessary:
 - Sometimes it's necessary for our sakes, because resentment is taking its toll.
 - Sometimes it's necessary for his sake, because he wants to reconnect.
 - Sometimes it's necessary for our consciences' sake, because we are Christians; we know better.
3. We know when we should . . .
We know we should and we just don't want to.
We know we should and haven't gotten around to it.
We know we should, but it's too emotional.
We know we should, but she doesn't seem interested.
We know we should, but we're afraid of the response.

And, it's Christmas. And he is coming to your house. Or you're going to his. Or you've arranged it so you won't see him again this year.

Worse . . . it's Christmas . . . and you're going to acknowledge or celebrate or even sing that God sent his Son into the world to reconcile himself with humanity—with you—and to address our seemingly irreconcilable differences. We celebrate that God took the first step when he would have been justified in doing nothing.

"Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."

—Charles Wesley | "Hark The Herald Angels Sing"

I. God had an endless list of excuses NOT to reconcile with humanity.

- A. God had all of your excuses and more and chose to reconcile himself to humanity.
- B. It cost him more than a phone call, plane ticket, or awkward conversation.