

Reconciling Christmas

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Note: The following content is a raw transcript and has not been edited for grammar, punctuation, or word usage.

Reconciliation. It is not comfortable and it is not intuitive, but in most cases it is necessary and it's necessary for our sake so we don't drag all that stuff around for year after year after year from one relationship to another to another wondering what's wrong with everybody else and forgetting that the common denominator of all of our relationships is, us. But reconciliation is necessary for their sakes because there are bridges that are out and they're not gonna be mended until we start mending on our side. And one of the surprise things about reconciliation is how many people are on the other side of you that are thinking about you the same way you're thinking about them and they're just waiting for somebody to make the first move and they're hoping it's you and you're hoping it's them and you don't think they ever will so you think why should I even try. And it's necessary for conscience sake and I am so... This is so much a part of my life in the past where I would know I need to, I need to, I need to and I just don't and I ignore it and ignore it and then I hear a message or I hear a song or I hear a story of somebody else reconciling and all of a sudden I start feeling that same old guilt, that old guilt "I really need to call, I really need to make an effort but I just don't and I just take that part of my conscience and I just quiet it, just move on with my life."

01:21 S1: And if we're Christians, for those of us who are Christ followers, reconciliation is necessary for Christ's sake because that's so much a part of Christianity and we know we should. I mean whether you're a Christian person, non-Christian person, part of some other religion, there's part of you that knows when things are out of sorts between you and somebody especially somebody in your family, somebody you are close to in the past. You know you should but we just don't want to. We would love to be able to push a button and everything will be the way it used to be. In fact we'd love to push a button and it'd be better than it used to be. But when it comes to our responsibility in making an effort we just don't want to. In some cases we just haven't gotten around to it. It's way too emotional. Isn't emotional? It's like when you have an imaginary conversation with that person in your head it's not all that emotional because you say just the right thing and they respond just the right way and you're always right and they apologize in those imaginary conversations. Don't they always apologize to you and realize that you're right and in some cases there are other people standing around listening in your imaginary conversation and they confirm the fact that you're right, the other person was wrong and it all works out.

02:25 S1: And then when you think about actually making an effort or reaching out, it's just so emotional. It's like there's a ton of emotion above you you just can't push through and besides they don't even really seem all that interested. It's kind of bothering you, it kind of surfaces in you, I really ought to and I don't, I really ought to and I don't. But when you see them, when you hear about them, it doesn't seem to be bothering them so you wonder, "Should I allow it to bother me?" Besides we don't know how they're gonna respond, right? They may be like, "Who cares?" Like, "Thanks but no thanks." Like, "So what?" And then we come to Christmas and at some point during the Christmas season, the Christmas holiday either in the mall, in your car, through Spotify or Pandora or country Christmas on Pandora's what I listen to all through the Christmas season or at church or in somebody's home, somewhere along the way you hear this famous, famous Christmas song and these lyrics go right by. They may not be your favorite Christmas song but you've heard it and you've heard it and you've heard it and buried in the middle of this famous Christmas song is the issue of Christmas that is so easy for us to either sing about but not really do anything about.