

## Topic 8 : RECONCILIATION

### Meaning of reconciliation

Reconciliation is a process of bringing back a friendly relationship. It also means bringing back relations or friend who had quarreled or argued. It is aimed at making people become friends again after a quarrel or disagreement

In Christianity, reconciliation is the end of bondage caused by original sin between God and humanity.

Since God had reconciled us to Himself through Christ, we should reconcile with one another, no longer counting our offences against one another.

### Conditions necessary for reconciliation

1. Contrition/feeling sorry about what you have done.
2. Confession - accept the wrong and make confession.
3. Humility - both parties should be humble and ready to repair any harm caused.
4. Impartiality - Where a third party is involved, he should be fair in making peace.
5. Satisfaction - both parties should be satisfied that they are doing the right thing by trying to reconcile.

### EXAMPLES OF RECONCILIATION STORY IN THE BIBLE

1. The father of the prodigal son reconcile with his son (Luke 15 VS 11-32)
2. Esau reconciles with Jacob (Genesis 33 VS 1-11)

### WAYS OF RECONCILING WITH OFFENDERS

1. Shaking of hands
2. Hugs
3. Saying I am sorry
4. Exchange of gifts
5. Forgiveness

### Moral lessons

1. We should take steps to reconcile and restore back relationships with God or fellow humans whenever an offence is committed.

2. We should be quick to forgive when we are offended.
3. When we forgive we should not hold grudges against those who had offended us.

