

## Reconciled to God

### A Study of the Book of Romans

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**Key Truth:** God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8).

Isaac Newton's Third Law of Motion states, in effect, "For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction." Or to put it another way, for every cause there is an effect. This is true in life and in salvation. If salvation is the effect, what's the cause? Something very real happened the day Jesus was crucified and the day he was resurrected. What's the cause, and what's the effect? That is what Paul seems to be getting at here in these verses. Through Jesus Christ, God brings about a world-changing event that results in our being brought into an eternal relationship with him. This enables us to avoid his wrath and rejoice in his presence.

## DISCUSS

Read **Romans 5:6-11** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon entitled "**Reconciled to God.**"

## DIG IN

### 1. The Cause: Love

(Romans 5:6-8)

In what ways was God's love proven on the cross?

Why is it unnecessary for someone to die in place of a righteous person (v. 7)?

Why is it hard to imagine someone dying in place of a *good* person (v. 7)?

In what ways was God's love preemptive (see vv. 6 & 8)?

In what ways is God's love demonstrated toward those who are unable and unwilling to obey?

### 2. The Effect: Reconciliation

(Romans 5:9-11)

According to verse 9, what are we saved from? In what ways is this an act of God's grace?

How does Christ's life make us doubly reconciled (v. 10)?

In what specific ways does our reconciliation to God cause you to rejoice (v. 11)? Why is it important that we recognize our need of salvation in order for us to rejoice?

In what ways does God's love, which produces reconciliation *for* us, also produce the ministry of reconciliation *through* us (see 1 John 4:19; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20).

## DO

What lessons do you learn from these verses that you will take with you throughout the coming week?