Romans 5:1-2, 10 "1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand … 10 For if, while we were **God's enemies**, we were **reconciled** to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been **reconciled**, shall we be saved through His life!" (NIV)

Reconciliation: "to RESTORE to friendship" or "to MAKE UP after a quarrel"

ROAD TO RECONCILIATION

1. Christ is the MEANS to reconciliation.

Romans5:1-2 "1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand." (NIV)

a. Sin is the BARRIER that needs to be dealt with.

Romans 5:6-7 "6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the **ungodly**. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare die."

b. Reconciliation proceeds from the LOVE OF God.

Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates **His own love for us** in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

c. There is real HOSTILITY between God and Sinners.

Romans 5:9-10 "9 Since we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from **God's wrath** through Him! 10 For if, while we were **God's enemies**, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life!"

d. Reconciliation is GOD'S work.

Romans 5:11 “Not only is this so, but we also boast in **God through whom** we have now received **reconciliation**.” (NIV)

e. The reconciliation must be RECEIVED.

Romans 5:11 “Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through whom we have now **received** reconciliation.”

2. Christians are to proclaim the MESSAGE of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 “17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 18 All this is from God, who **reconciled** us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of **reconciliation**: 19 that God was **reconciling** the world to Himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of **reconciliation**. 20 We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be **reconciled** to God. 21 God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.” (NIV)

3. The church is to be a MODEL of reconciliation.

Ephesians 2:11-22 “11 Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)—12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

14 For He Himself is our **peace**, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, 15 by setting aside in His flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in Himself one new humanity out of the two thus making peace, 16 and in one body **reconcile** both of them to God **through the cross**, by which He put to death their hostility. 17 He came and preached **peace** to you who were far away and **peace** to those who were near. 18 For through Him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of His household, 20 built on the foundation of the

apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the chief cornerstone. 21 In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. 22 And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit." (NIV)

BOTTOM LINE

Colossians 1:15-20 "15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him. 17 He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have the supremacy. 19 God was pleased to have all His fulness dwell in Him, 20 and through Him to **reconcile** to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making **peace** through His blood, shed on the cross. 21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. 22 But now He has **reconciled** you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation—23 if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel." (NV)