

Thoughts on Reconciliation



Have you fallen out or argued with someone in your class or activity group? Maybe they've said something unkind or have hurt you. How does it feel? What does it make you want to say or do? Does it make you want to be friends with them? You probably feel upset and it would be easiest to ignore them and 'break up'. But that would be sad. Is there another way?



The Bible says

Jesus said, "I say to you who are listening to me, love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Ask God to bless those who say bad things to you. Pray for those who are cruel to you."

Luke 6:27,28

'Be kind and loving to each other. Forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ.'

Ephesians 4:32

'Try to live in peace with all people.'

Hebrews 12:14

What do you think about these verses?

Fact

Archbishop Desmond Tutu said, "True reconciliation is never cheap, for it is based on forgiveness which is costly."

Idea

Reconciliation is when people become friendly or peaceable again after they have argued. It means 'making up' a relationship after it has broken. It's much better for how we feel inside to try to repair a relationship. But it is not easy and might take time and effort. You might need to take the first step; forgiving them if they have done something wrong to you, or saying sorry and really meaning it. You need to talk calmly with each other so you might need someone you both trust to help you and be there too. Take it in turns to share how you feel and listen to each other without interrupting. This will help you to understand each other. Reconciliation will make you feel much better.



Do

Is there someone you would like to reconcile (make up) with? Talk to them - say sorry and ask to be friends; make a card for them; invite them to play with you. What else could you do?



Thank you for forgiveness. Help us to try to live in peace with everyone and help us to reconcile with those who we have fallen out with. Give us strength and show us the best way to do this.

Pray



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