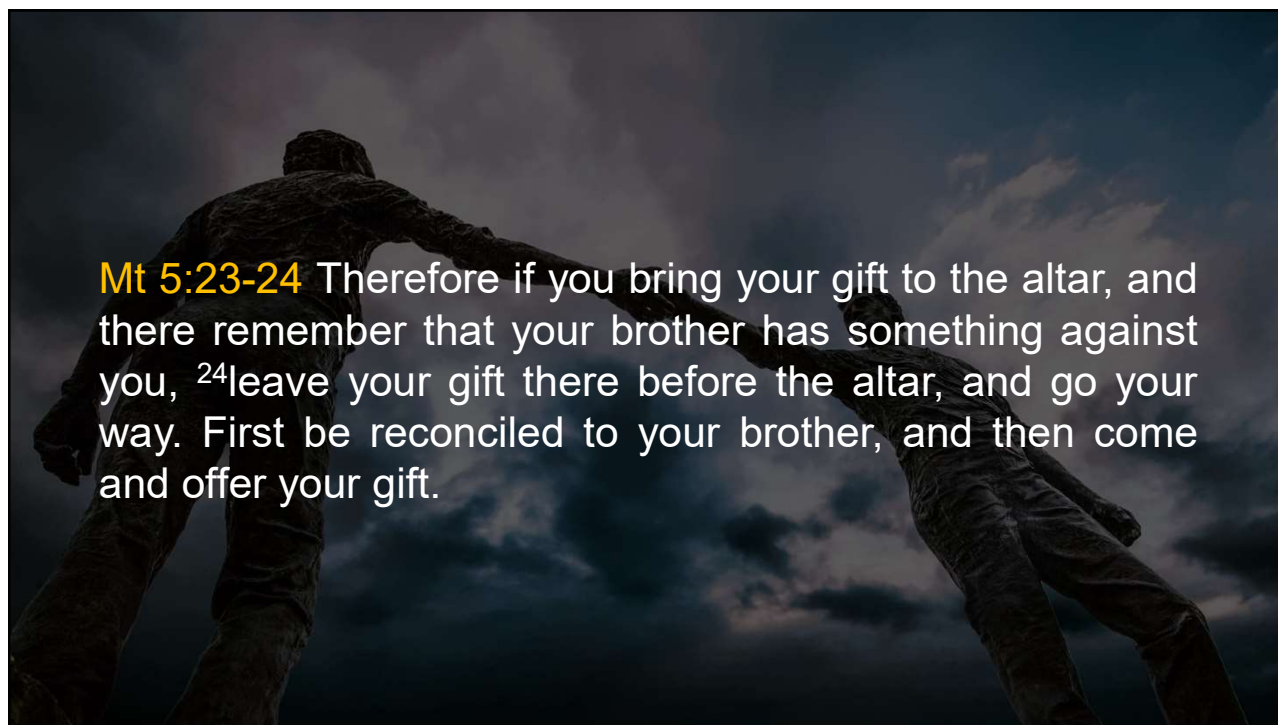


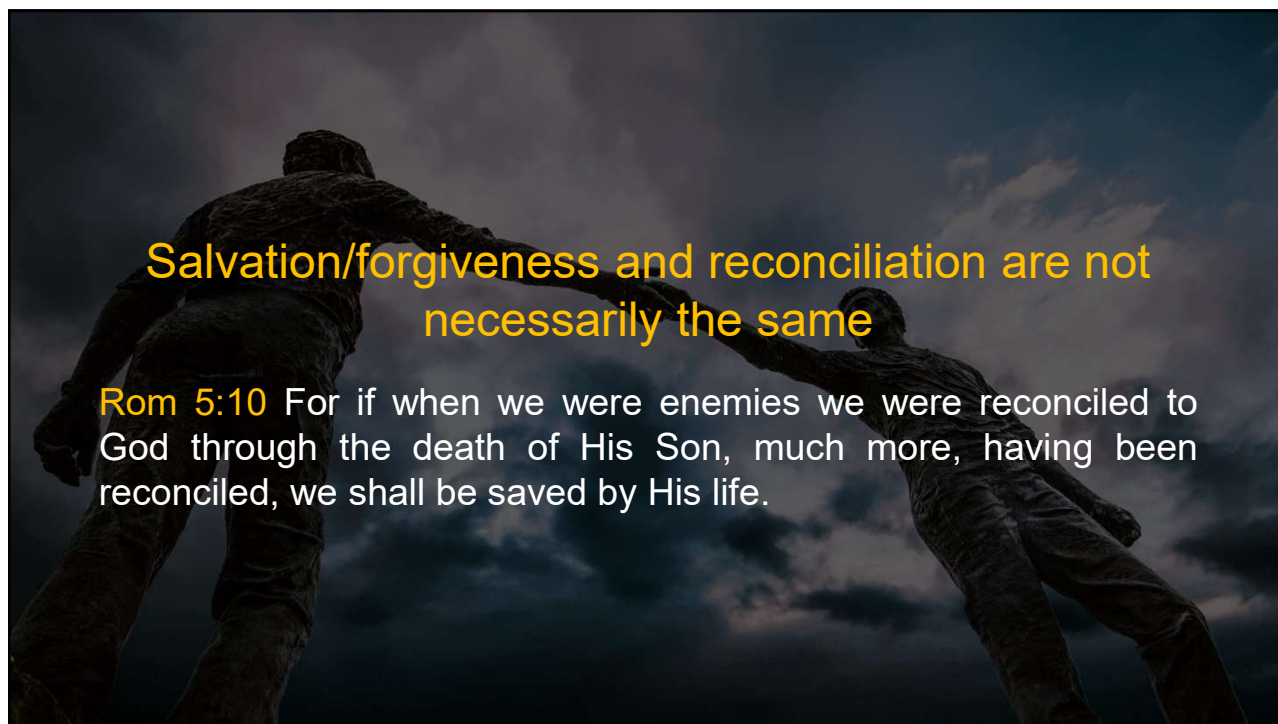


1



Mt 5:23-24 Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

2



Salvation/forgiveness and reconciliation are not necessarily the same

Rom 5:10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

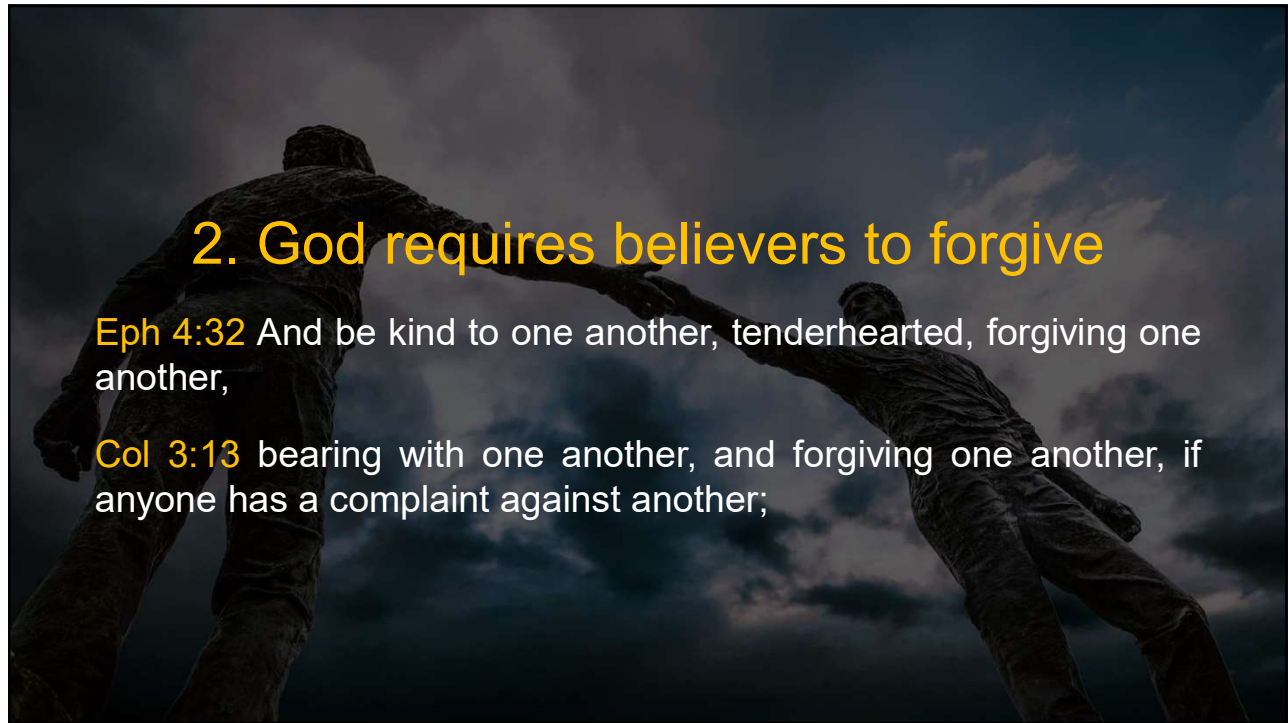
3



1. Disagreements and offenses between believers are inevitable

- Disagreement between Paul and Barnabas – Acts 15:37-41
- Disagreement between Paul and Peter – Gal 2:11-12

4

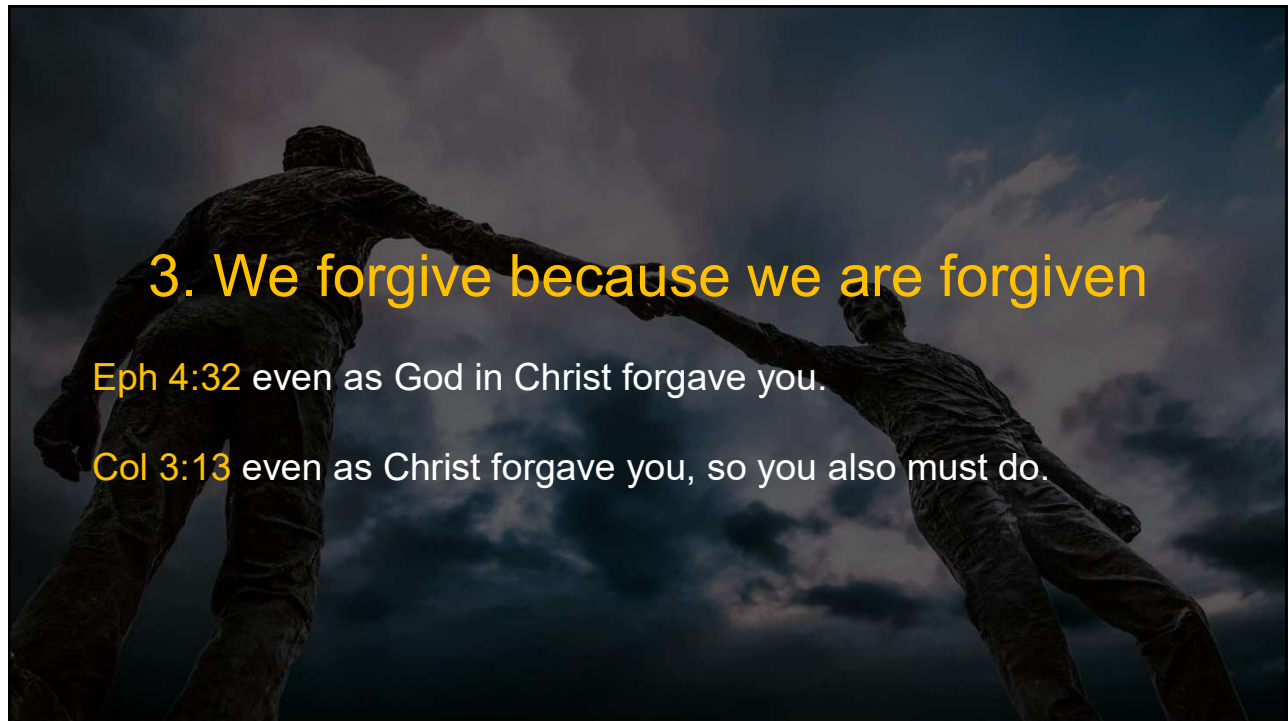


2. God requires believers to forgive

Eph 4:32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,

Col 3:13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another;

5

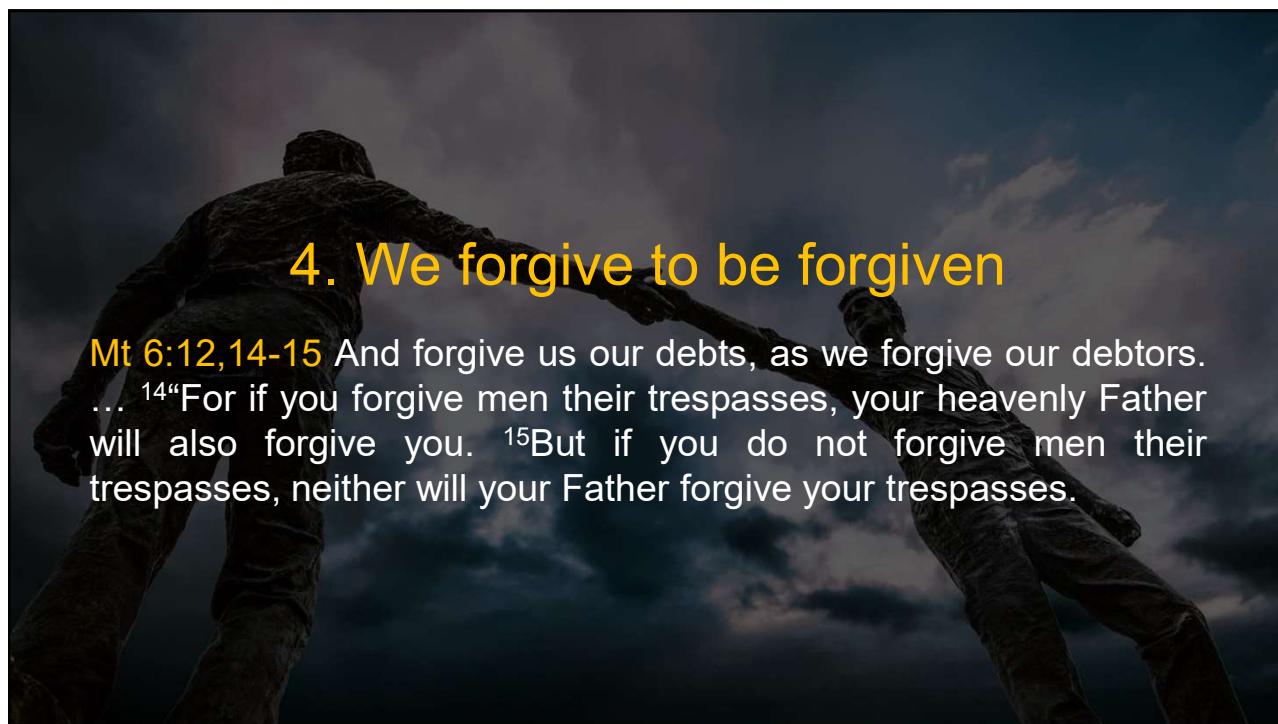


3. We forgive because we are forgiven

Eph 4:32 even as God in Christ forgave you.

Col 3:13 even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

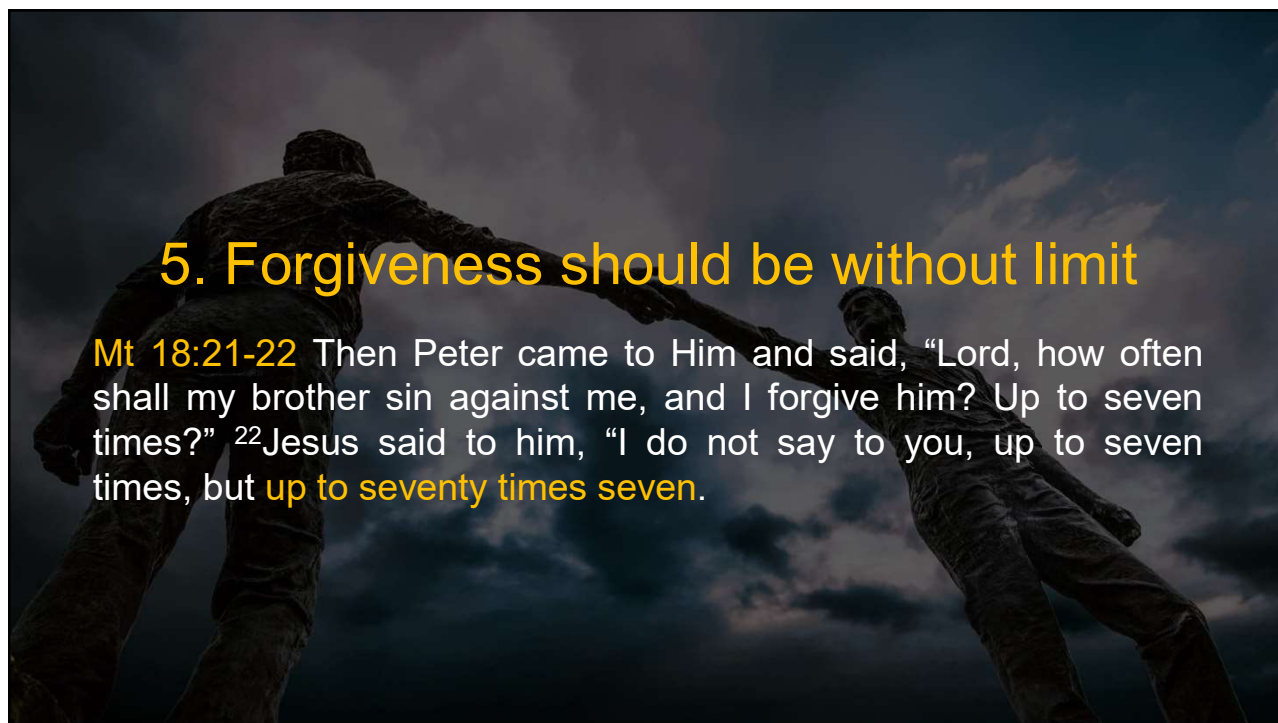
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4. We forgive to be forgiven

Mt 6:12,14-15 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. ... ¹⁴“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

7



5. Forgiveness should be without limit

Mt 18:21-22 Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but **up to seventy times seven**.”

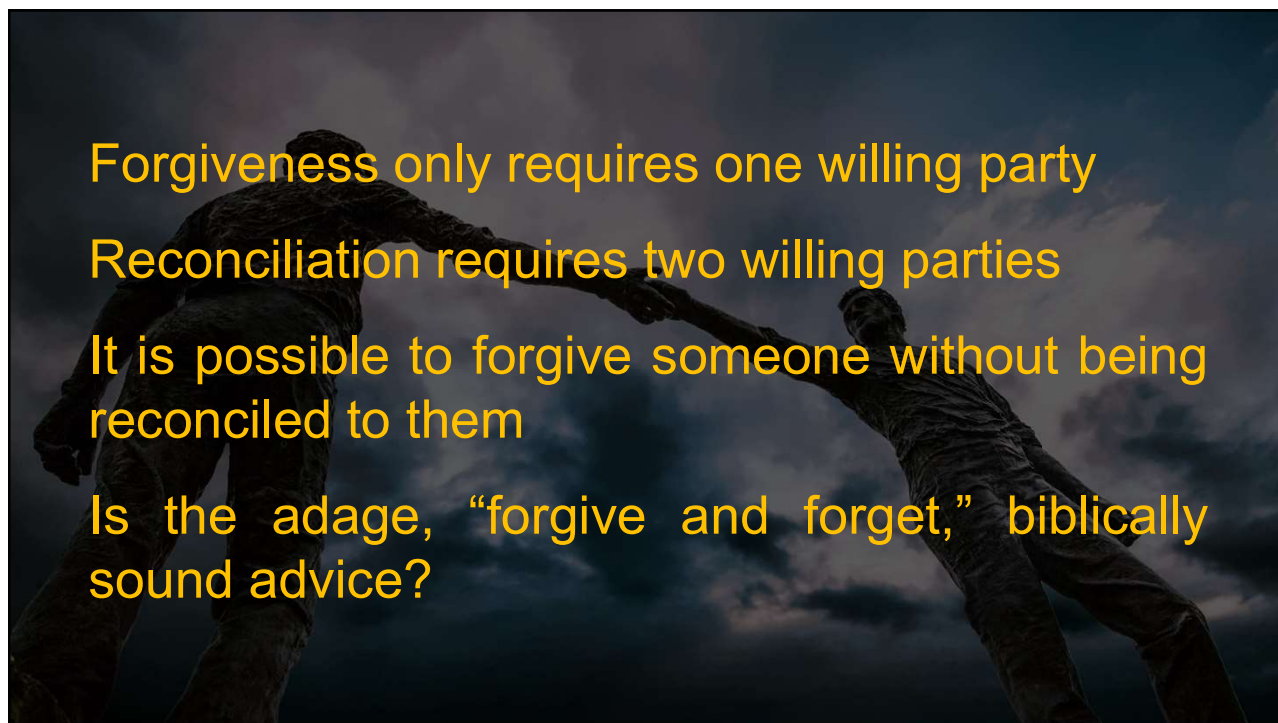
8



6. Forgiving kills bitterness

Heb 12:15 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

9



Forgiveness only requires one willing party

Reconciliation requires two willing parties

It is possible to forgive someone without being reconciled to them

Is the adage, “forgive and forget,” biblically sound advice?

10

A photograph of two figures, possibly statues or people, standing against a dramatic, cloudy sky. They are holding hands, with their arms extended towards each other. The lighting is low, creating a somber and contemplative mood.

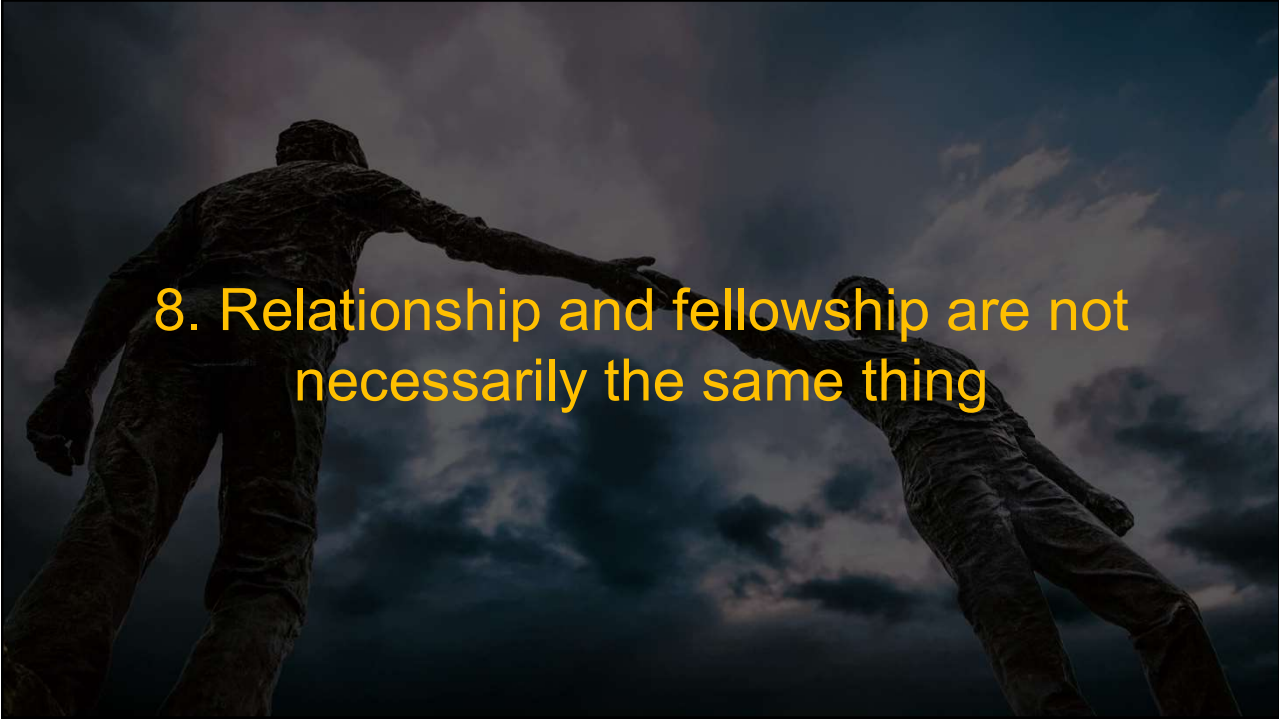
7. Only God can actually forget wrongs against Him

Ps 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

Micah 7:19 He will again have compassion on us and will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

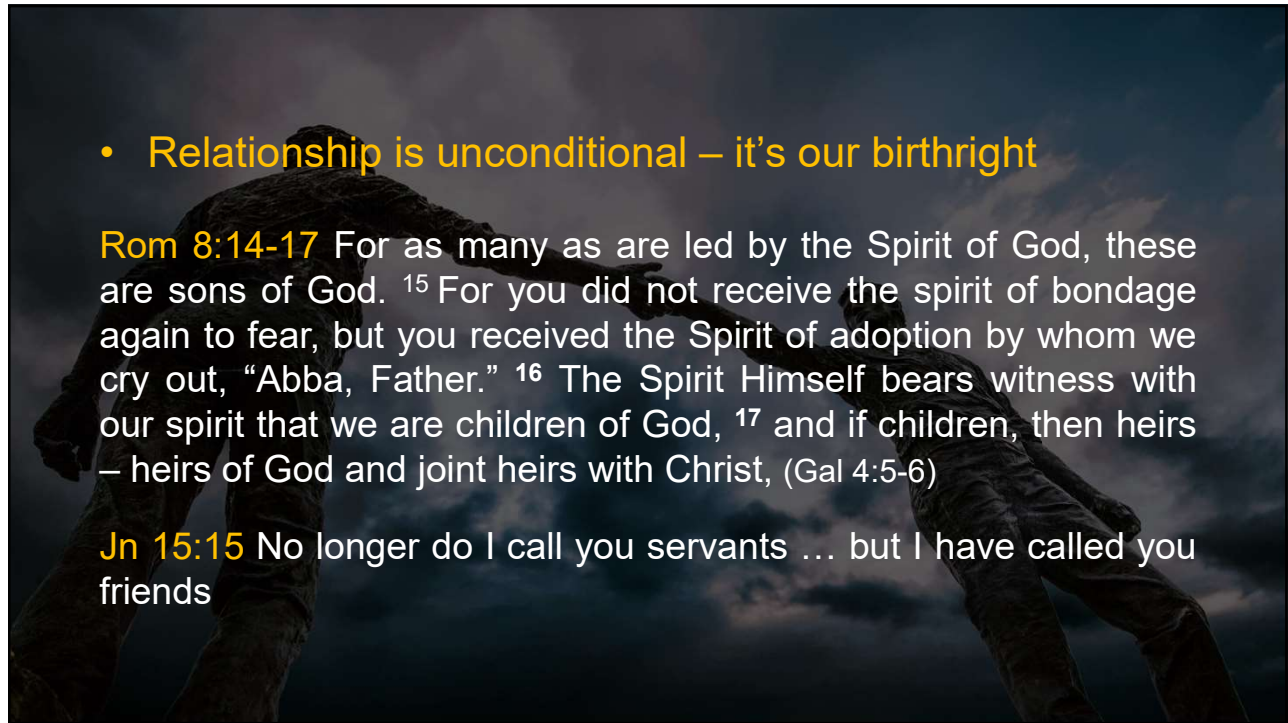
Heb 8:12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” (Jer 31:31--34)

11

A photograph of two figures, possibly statues or people, standing against a dramatic, cloudy sky. They are holding hands, with their arms extended towards each other. The lighting is low, creating a somber and contemplative mood.

8. Relationship and fellowship are not necessarily the same thing

12

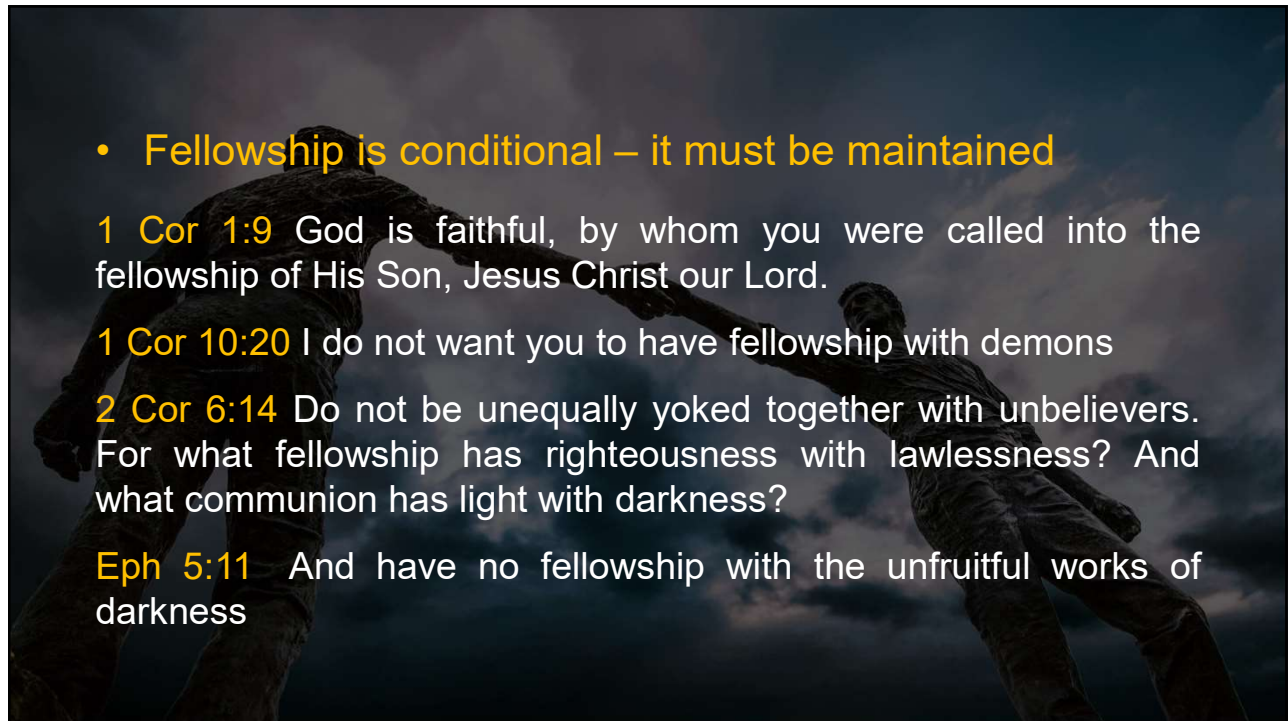


- **Relationship is unconditional – it's our birthright**

Rom 8:14-17 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs – heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, (Gal 4:5-6)

Jn 15:15 No longer do I call you servants ... but I have called you friends

13



- **Fellowship is conditional – it must be maintained**

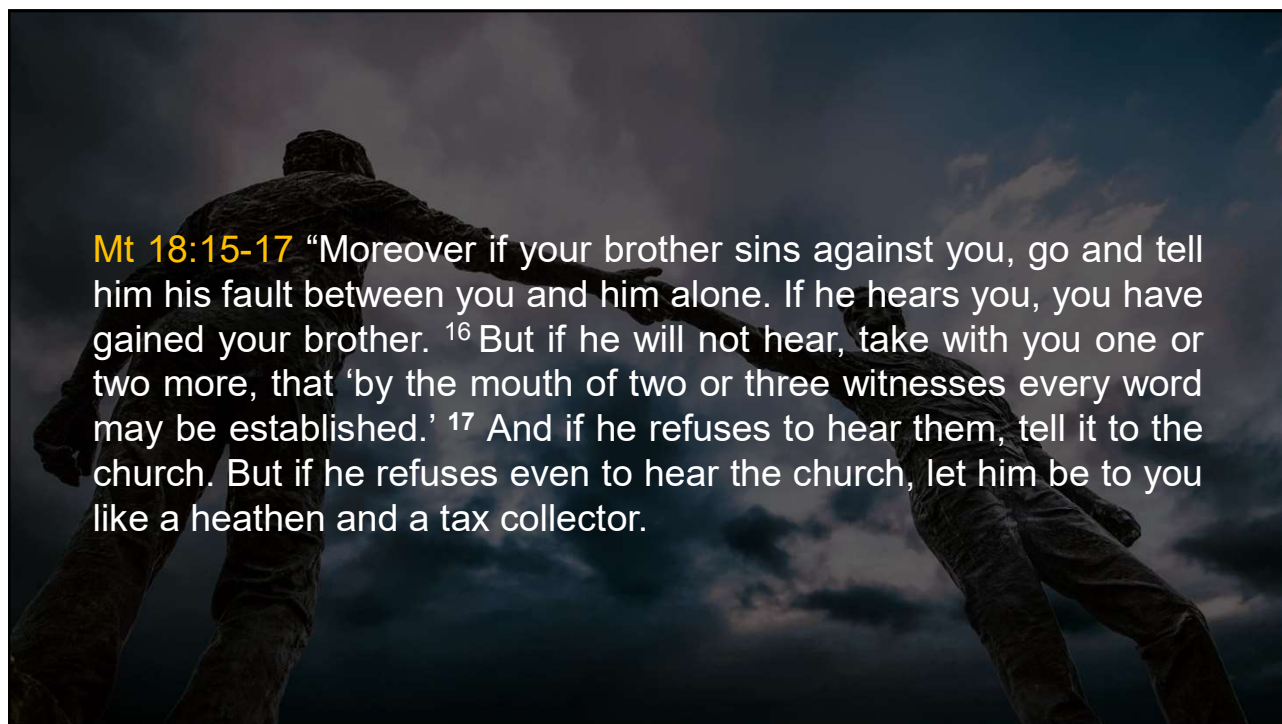
1 Cor 1:9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Cor 10:20 I do not want you to have fellowship with demons

2 Cor 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

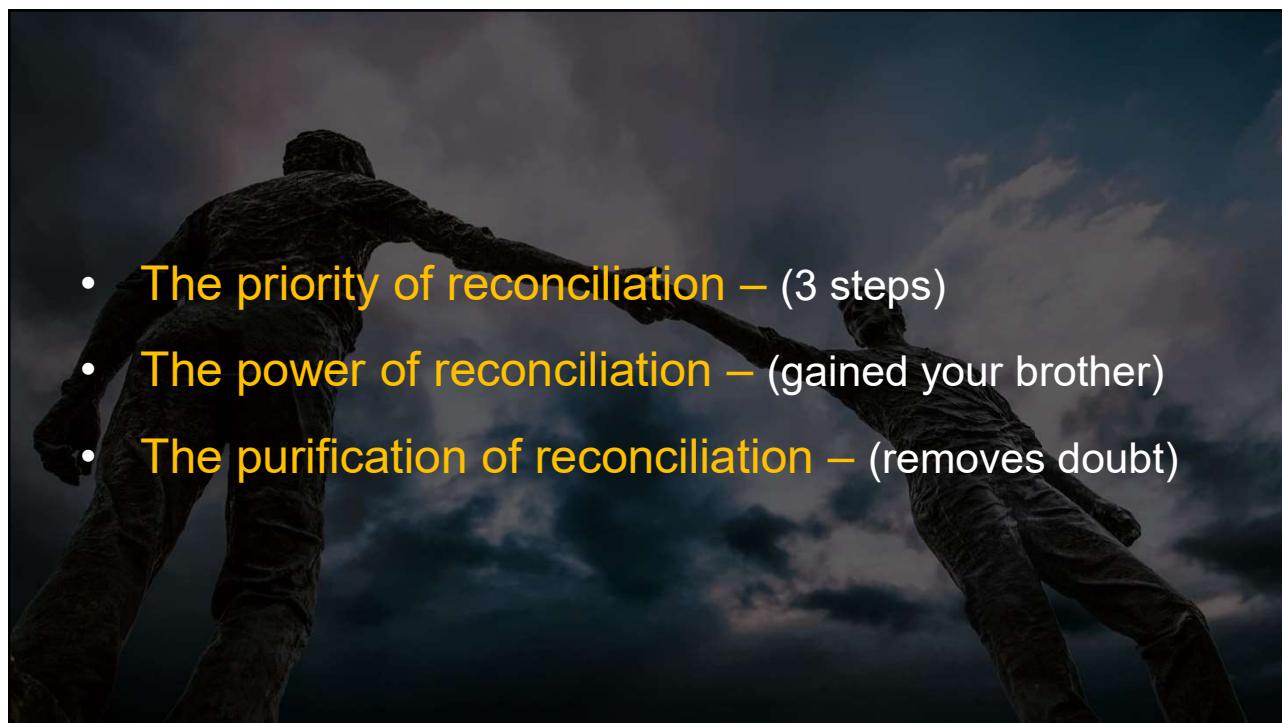
Eph 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness

14



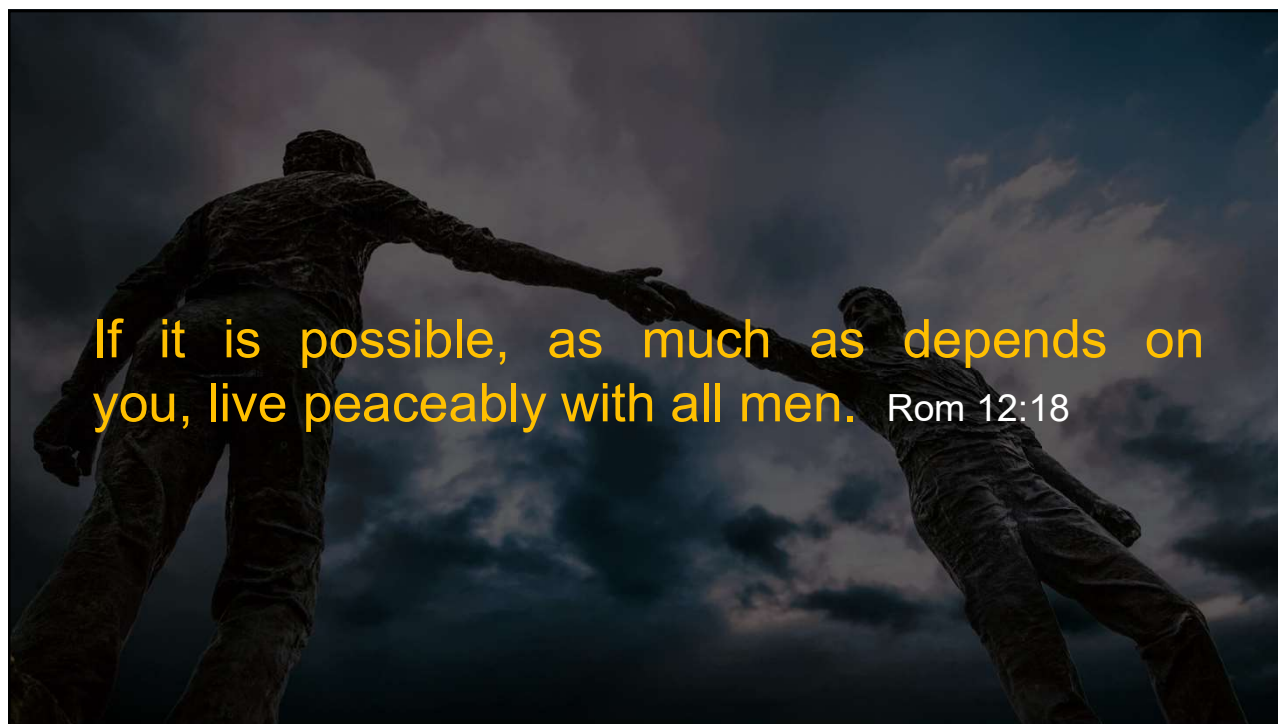
Mt 18:15-17 “Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶ But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that ‘by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.’ ¹⁷ And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.

15



- **The priority of reconciliation** – (3 steps)
- **The power of reconciliation** – (gained your brother)
- **The purification of reconciliation** – (removes doubt)

16



17

Lutherans – infant baptism

Church of Christ/Christian Church – baptismal regeneration


Methodists, Freewill Baptists, Pentecostals/Assemblies of God, Charismatics – a saved person can lose their salvation

Pentecostals/Charismatics – speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, slain in the spirit, faith healing, prophetic utterances are normative for today

Nazarenes – a person can reach a state of sinless perfection in this life

Some Baptists/Presbyterians – Calvinism

18



"I believe the doctrine of election, because I am quite certain that, if God had not chosen me, I should never have chosen Him; and I am sure He chose me before I was born, or else He never would have chosen me afterwards; and He must have elected me for reasons unknown to me, for I never could find in myself why He should have looked upon me with special love. So I am forced to accept that great Biblical doctrine."


Charles Spurgeon

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to **all** men,
Titus 2:11

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires **all** men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
1 Tim 2:3-4

The Lord ... is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that **all** should come to repentance. 2 Pet 3:9

19



"I believe the doctrine of election, because I am quite certain that, if God had not chosen me, I should never have chosen Him; and I am sure He chose me before I was born, or else He never would have chosen me afterwards; and He must have elected me for reasons unknown to me, for I never could find in myself why He should have looked upon me with special love. So I am forced to accept that great Biblical doctrine."

Charles Spurgeon

All means all and that's all that all means.

for **all** have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Rom 3:23

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from **all** unrighteousness. 1 Jn 1:9

20