



Reconciliation

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Biblical Founding

- **Reconciliation between God and man – 1 Isa 1:18**
- **Reconciliation between people**
 - **Gen 45 Jozeph and brothers**
 - **John 21 Jesus and Peter**
 - **Acts 9 Paul and apostles**



Biblical Foundation: Attitude

- **Col 3:12-15**

12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. 15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.



Biblical foundering: How?

- **Matt 18: 15 - 17**
 - **On your own**
 - **One or two witnesses**
 - **Congregation**
 - **Cut off**
- **Make known and confront directly as per Paul**



Mpa Testimony

- ***Mpa* @ Moreleta – forgiveness**
- **PE 2013 – race**
- **Durban 2014 – church schism/
split 1940**
- **Stellenbosch 2014 – race and
denomination**



Ten most predictable times for conflict

- **Easter and Pentecost**
- **Budget time/ fundraising**
- **New Pastor – new dynamics and weights**
- **Change of leadership style**
- **Pastor on leave**
- **Pastor's family status changes**
- **Renewal**
- **Conclusion of large building project – back lash**
- **Many members resign**
- **Large growth in membership figures**



NGMP Testimony (1995)

- **Building too small**
- **Familiar way is to secede**
- **God leads differently: Go bigger**
- **Leaders reported to the Presbytery (Ring)**
- **Investigation by independents**
- **Process of consultation**
- **Exceptions/compromises due to sensitivities**
- **Additional complications – everybody involved**
- **Trust God and keep quiet**



NGMP Testimony II (2006)

- **New Pastors appointed**
- **Large building project completed**
- **Rebellion against leadership style**
- **“We can hear the Lord!”**
- **“I also have a dream I wish to live to the full”**
- **Eliminate people**



NGMP Testimony II (2006)

- **Lots of crying/tears**
- **Staffs in the sand and wait**
- **Change of character**
- **Keep quiet**
- **God shows**
- **His time – it is His congregation**
- **Discussions/Talks**
- **Worship service**



What now?

- **To admit that you are sorry is difficult**
- **If you want to reveal the devil, you have to admit that you are sorry**
- **Relationships do not necessarily heal to be the same as before the conflict**
- **Pray a lot**
- **Not a feeling but a decision**



What now?

- **Who comes first? Humbleness attracts grace and grace attracts the Holy Spirit**
- **What am I prepared to do or not to do to see the Spirit work again?**
- **It is about God and not about you.**



Practical

- **Everybody has sinned**
- **First reconcile with God**
- **Reconcile with people: Who?**
- **When? Why not now?**



*May God bless
you!*

