

Praying for the Brokenness in our Community

2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-21

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 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. 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. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

PRAISE

Father, we praise you because you did not abandon us in the garden when we disobeyed and turned against you. In your compassion, you sought us out. In your mercy, you showed us grace.

Father, we praise you for sending your son, Jesus, to live among us as the presence of God. And that through Jesus you made a way for us to settle our relationship with you and our relationships with each other. You gave us a fresh start by offering forgiveness of sins.

And now, Father, we stand humbly before you, as people who do not deserve to be in your presence but have been reconciled with you through Christ. We give you all the glory and praise.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank you, Father, for drawing me near, even when...

Thank you for being a Father who is...

REQUESTS

Father, you have given us an important task, to be Christ's ambassadors, but we have failed at taking that role seriously. As you have reconciled us to yourself, you've asked us to share that message of good news with others. As you have shown us through Christ what reconciliation looks like, you've asked us to drop our differences and enter God's work of making things right between us. Lord, send your Spirit to lead us and guide us into this role as Christ's ambassadors of reconciliation.

Father, we pray for those who need your message of reconciliation. We think of those who have felt excluded from church, and therefore excluded from a relationship with you. We pray that you will soften those with hard hearts, that they will be ready to accept the love you have for them. Good Shepherd, keep seeking the lost sheep so that they will find peace in your presence.

Father, we also pray for the relationships in our community that need reconciliation. For the relationships that have been cut off from generation to generation, we pray for your healing. For the neighbors who are divided by race, religion, and realities, we pray for the image of Christ in each of us to overshadow these differences.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Father, send the Spirit of reconciliation into the hearts of those who don't know you...

Father, send the Spirit of reconciliation into our broken relationships, namely...

Father, send the Spirit of reconciliation into our own hearts, that we may be the presence of God in...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,

Amen.

UNITED STATES

300 East Beltline Ave. NE

Grand Rapids, MI 49506-1208

P (616) 726-1144

P 877-272-6205

CANADA

3475 Mainway

PO Box 5070, STN LCD 1

Burlington, ON L7R 3Y8

P (905) 336-2920

P 800-730-3490