

- 3. Read Romans 5:1, 2. How do we enter into peace with God? What effect should peace with God have on our relationships with God’s family?
- 4. Describe a situation where you were a peacemaker, bringing reconciliation, either between yourself and another or between two opposing parties. How did you build the bridge? Would you do anything differently if you were to do it again?
- 5. Read Colossians 1:28 and 2 Corinthians 13:11. How do unity, maturity and harmony relate together? What aspect are you working on most right now?



SHARING10 MINUTES

*“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”
(John 13: 34, 35)*

This is what Jesus said about the importance of *family harmony*. Discuss how being in harmony as a forgiver and peacemaker can give you an open door to share the gospel. Share how your opportunities to share Jesus’ message are going. If anything is hindering anyone for telling others about Jesus, be sure to pray about that in the prayer time.



LOOKING TO THE LORD 20 MINUTES

Take time to bring lavish thanks and praise to the Lord for His spiritual and material blessings. Pray for any bridge building, through forgiving and peacemaking, anyone in the group is doing.

Pray for those people you named who don’t yet follow Jesus Christ and you are seeking to connect with Him.

Pray for one another’s needs.

Next: *The Attitudes that draw us together - expressing our humility and generosity.*



**Part 6
Keeping harmony
by building
bridges to
one another**

Memory Verse: Romans 12:16 (NIV)

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

Advanced Memory Verse: Romans 12:16-18 (NIV)

**We build bridges to one another by
_____ one another.**

Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

(Colossians 3:12 – 14)

We are to forgive _____.

We are to forgive _____.

**We are to forgive _____
we have against one another.**

We build bridges to one another through _____.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. *(Colossians 3:15)*

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. *(Matthew 5:9)*

Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile man. *(Hebrews 12:14, 15)*

Peacemaking is not:

-
-
-

A peacemaker is someone who:

Does _____ **in humility.**
Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him **show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.** *(James 3:13)*

Is not _____.
But if you harbor **bitter envy and selfish ambition** in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. ¹⁶ For where you have **envy and selfish ambition**, there you find disorder and every evil practice. *(James 3:14-16)*

Exhibits godly character displaying _____.
But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; **then peace-loving**, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. *(James 3:17)*

Sows in peace, and leaving a trail of _____ **behind them**

Peacemakers who **sow in peace** raise a **harvest of righteousness.** *(James 3:18)*

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All Scripture references are from “The Holy Bible: New International Version” unless otherwise noted

Alliston Alliance Church
small group

Discussion Guide

February Mar 10 - 16, 2019

“CONNECTING: We Are Better Together”

Part 6 - “Keeping harmony by building bridges to one another.”

Based on the message given by Pastor Brian Reynolds on Sunday March 10, 2019.



RECONNECTING10 MINUTES

Our message this week was about harmony, using the metaphor of bridge building. As you reconnect, share with the group the most impressive bridge you have seen in your life. Was it old or new? What did it connect? Why did it impress you? If that bridge didn't exist, what would the effect be for the people of that area?

Read Colossians 3:12-17. Have one member of the group pray to commit this time to the Lord.



DIGGING IN 50 MINUTES

1. Read Matthew 18:15–35. What point is Jesus driving home in his instruction and in his parable? Why do you think Peter followed up the instruction with his question? Why did the forgiven servant not treat his debtor differently? How does Jesus closing line (v. 35) line up with his instruction in Matthew 6:12, 14, 15?
2. Which do you find easier or harder: admitting you have wronged someone, or forgiving someone who has wronged you? Why do you think this is so?