

Reflections on the Apostle Paul as a leader
(Based on 2 Corinthians)

The Reconciling Leader
2 Corinthians 5:11-21

Reconciliation with God is our need
Calling others to be reconciled to Him is our mission
Living out this reconciliation is our lifestyle

Ramez Atallah was born in Cairo, Egypt and emigrated with his family to Canada when he was sixteen. He came to know the Lord through a local church in Montreal and was discipled as a student through the Inter-Varsity group at McGill University. From 1972 to 1980 he developed and directed the ministry of the Groupes Bibliques Universitaires du Quebec. In 1980 along with his wife and two children he returned to Egypt, where he became the IFES Regional Secretary for the Middle East. He attended the first Lausanne Congress and was appointed as a youth representative to the Lausanne Committee in 1975. He served on the Committee from 1975 to 1994. In 2006 he rejoined Lausanne as Program Chairman for Lausanne III Cape Town Congress. After the Congress, he was appointed as one of the Deputy Chairs of the Lausanne Movement until 2015. Since 1990 he has been the General Secretary of the Bible Society of Egypt, the position he still holds until now.

- The **motives** for Reconciliation
- The **means** of Reconciliation

➤ **The motives for proclaiming God's Reconciliation**

1. The Fear of the Lord (v. 10, 11a)
2. The Love of Christ (v.14, 15)

➤ **The means of Reconciliation**

1. God the Father is the author
2. Christ is the agent
3. Holy Spirit is the guarantor
4. We are Christ's Ambassadors

1. God the Father is the Author of Reconciliation

The initiative is all His:

- His idea
- His initiative
- His action

2. Christ is the Agent of Reconciliation

- “IN” Christ (v. 17)
- “THROUGH” Christ (v.18)

3. The Holy Spirit is the “down payment” - the guarantee - of RECONCILIATION (v.5)

4. We are Christ's AMBASSADORS

- God “gave us” the ministry of reconciliation (v.18)
- God “committed to us” the message of reconciliation(v.19)
- God makes His appeal “through us” (v. 20,21)

Our message of Reconciliation

To help people be reconciled to God
To help them be reconciled to one another
To be ourselves “peacemakers” for God

Conclusion

*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”. (v.20)*

What is God asking from you today in terms of His call of reconciliation in your life?