He Gets Us.

Jesus values my relationships. So, I think of those I've harmed.

June 5, 2022 Message Notes TEXT: MATTHEW 7:12, 5:23-24

Is there someone in your life you need to say "I'm sorry" to? What does it mean to face the harms we cause and become willing to make amends? God knows we hurt others, and we are hurt by others too. If we're going to make peace with ourselves, we've got to look at where peace has been broken with others.

NOTES

"None of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone." *ROMANS 14:7 KJV*

"We are all in a life-boat on a stormy sea and owe one another a terrible loyalty." – G.K. Chesterton

God's perspective on the situation is that we live in a one another kind of world.

- We're in it with one another.
- We need one another.
- We are connected to one another.
- We are responsible to one another.

"Where is your brother, Abel?" GENESIS 4:9 NIV

"Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all." (Step 8 of AA)

Jesus values my relationships, so I think of those I have harmed.

Jesus gets us. He knows we hurt and harm each other. He knows we feel hurt and harmed by each other.

"In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you." *MATTHEW 7:12 NIV*

"If you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God." *MATTHEW 5:23-24 NLT*

The value of staying aware, clean and current with ourselves in God's presence and others in the way we live...

When we fail to consider how our actions impact others, we disconnect from the very community we need to stay healthy in life.

What is it like to have me in your boat? Where have my defects done damage to people in my orbit?



Step 8: face the hurts you've caused for others.

It begins by making a list of people we believe we have harmed – financially, emotionally, verbally, sexually, physically.

If we're going to make peace with ourselves, we've got to look at where peace has been broken with others.

Then, in reflecting on the list, I let something happen in my attitude and become willing to make amends. Sometimes becoming willing is the biggest step of all.

Jesus is the place to make it happen. He gets us.

The Woman at the Well (John 4) – damaged, isolated and hurting until her encounter with Jesus.

"Come see a man who told me everything I ever did." JOHN 4:29 NIV

The Man Possessed (Mark 5) – eaten alive by evil, out of control, self-destructive until Jesus shows up and gives him peace of mind and a reason to live.

"Go home to your own people..." MARK 5:19 NIV

Jesus values our relationships; he helps us think about those we've harmed. He helps us become willing to step into that space.

The Crooked Tax Collector (Luke 19) – cheating behavior that caused great harm to people until he met Jesus and found the power to face his future by dealing with his past.

"I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give back four times as much." LUKE 19:8 NLT

Jesus responded, "Salvation has come to this home today..." LUKE 19:9 NLT

Where do we go from here?

- God wants to pour healing into our hearts and homes where harm's been done.
- God wants us to become willing to consider our part in someone else's pain.



- God wants us to see how connected we are and how we have power to affect one another's life for good or bad.
- God wants to bring peace to us as we are willing to make amends with those we have harmed.

Is there someone in your life you need to say "I'm sorry" to?

"I don't know. Am I my brother's keeper?" – Cain GENESIS 4:9 NIV

God never intended Cain to be his brother's keeper. He wanted him to be his brother's brother.

God wants us to see our connectedness – to be there for one another, bear one another's burdens, encourage one another, be kind and forgiving to one another and make room for healing to happen.

What does it mean to face the harms we cause and become willing to make amends?

These steps are about finding our way to healing and hope by finding our way home to God and each other. Jesus values our relationships and wants us to think of those we've harmed. Let God break the arrow of bitterness and defensiveness and bring peace and freedom.

Are you willing to become willing?

