# Psalm 85:10 A Multidimensional Framework for Reconciliation

Lawrence Ressler, Ph.D.

October 25, 2018

NACSW 68th Convention

Hartford, Connecticut

Jesus is the center of our faith,
Community is the center of our life,
Reconciliation is the center of our
work.

Psalm 85: 9-10

Surely his salvation (welfare) is nigh them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land.

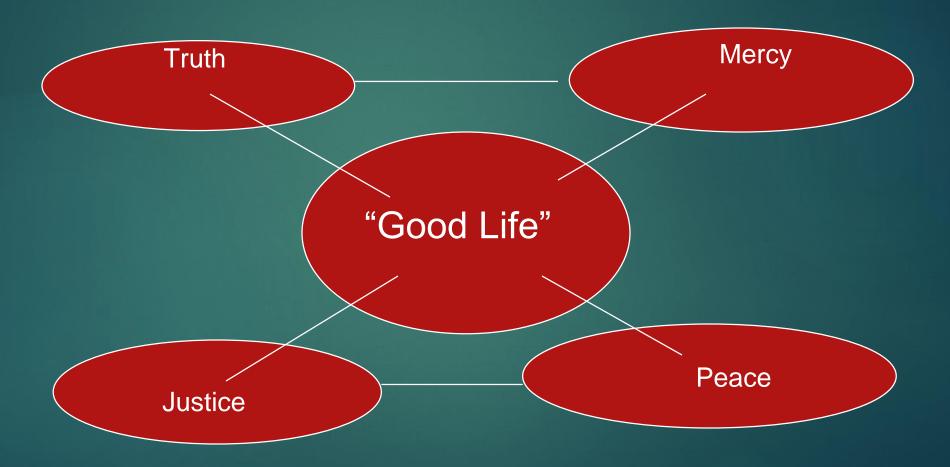
Mercy and Truth are met together;

Justice and Peace have kissed each other.

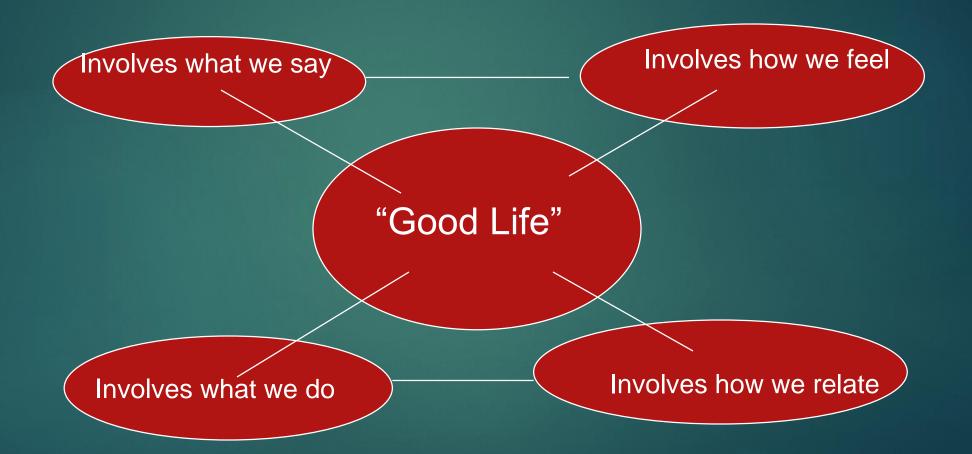
#### I Peter 3:10-12

• For, "whoever would love life and see good days Must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

### "Good Life"



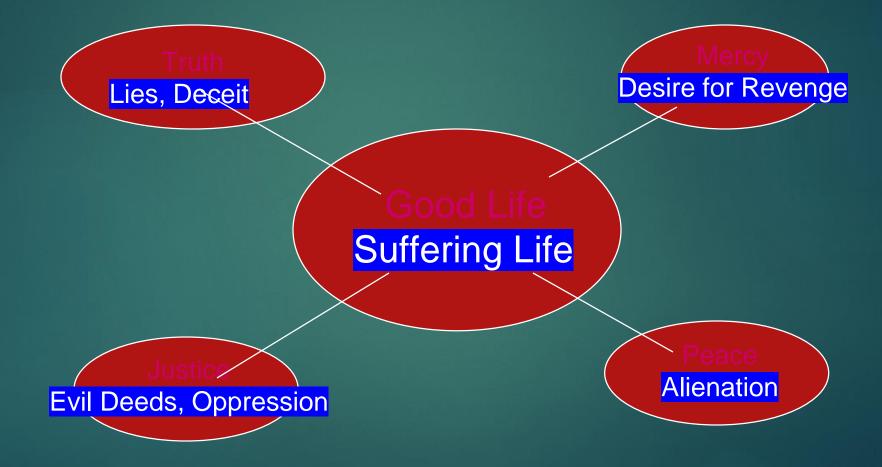
#### "Good Life"



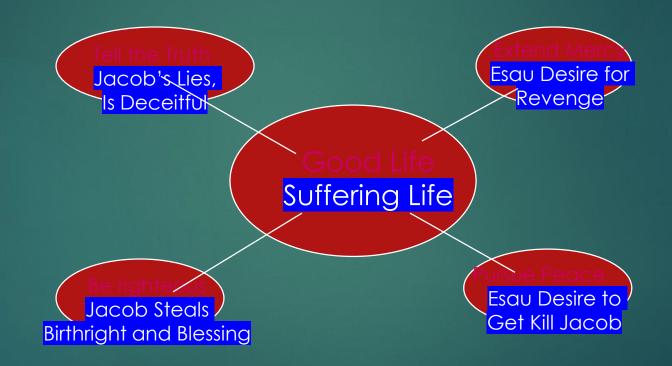
#### "Good Life"

Mercy Truth Acceptance Honesty Grace Revelation Support Acknowledgement Compassion Clarity Healing "Good Life" Peace Justice Harmony Equality **Unity** Right Relationship Security Making things right Respect Restitution J P Lederach

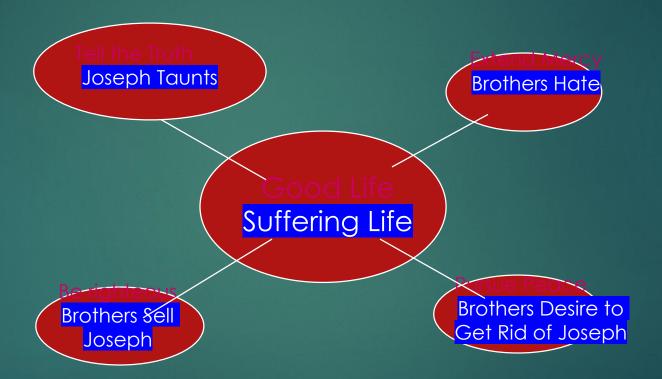
# Factors that Produce the Suffering Life



# Elements in the Suffering Life of Jacob and Esau



# Elements in the Suffering Life of Joseph and His Brothers



# Blessed are the Peacemakers: What does it take to be reconciled?

From Lies, Deceit To Truthfulness

From Desiring Revenge
To Mercy

From Suffering Life
To Good Life

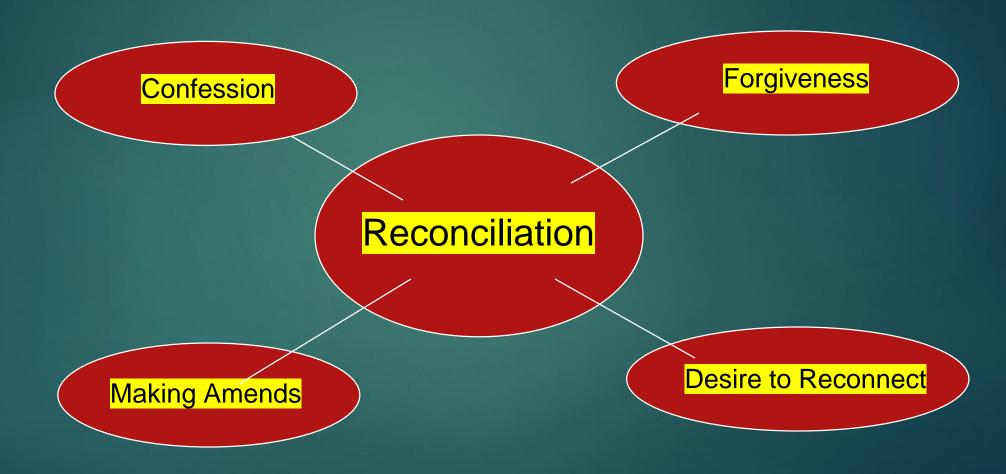
From Evil, Oppression

To Being Righteous

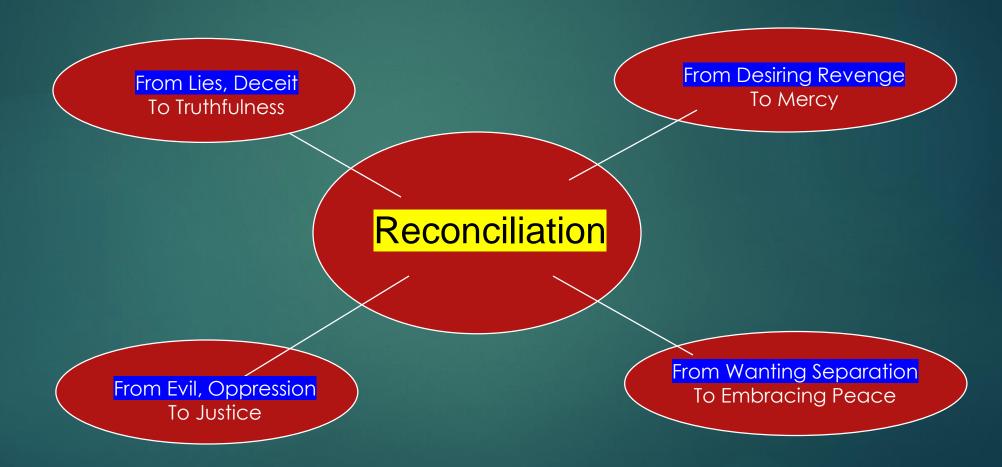
From Being Alienated

To Embracing Peace

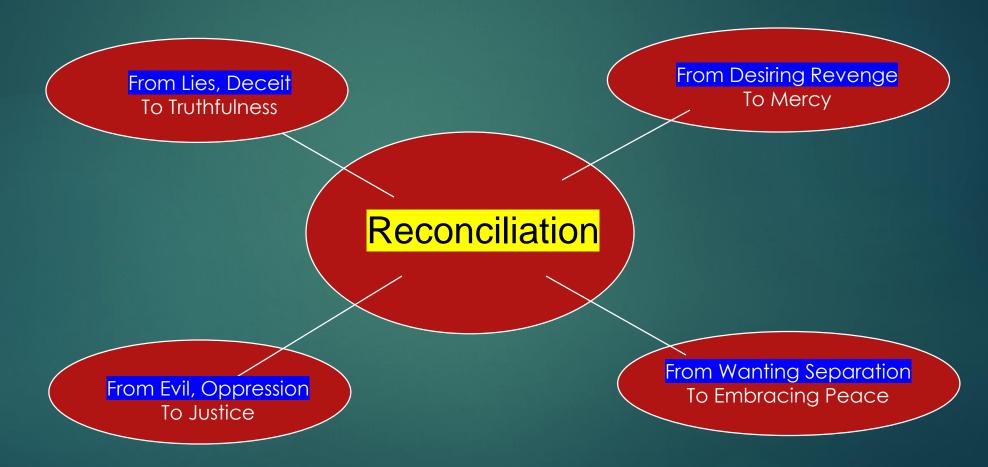
# Blessed are the Peacemakers: What does it take to be reconciled



### Blessed are the Peacemakers: How did Jacob and Esau do it?

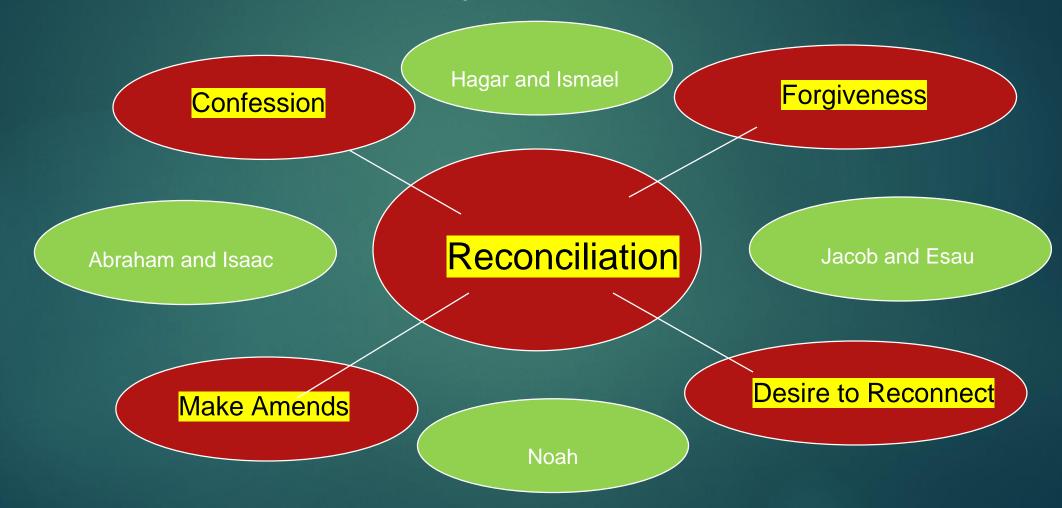


### Blessed are the Peacemakers: How did Joseph and his brothers do it?

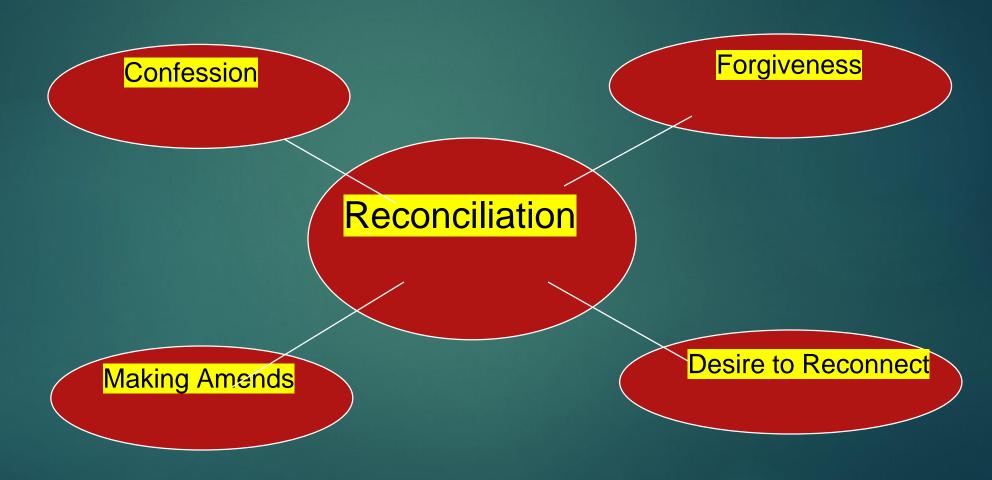


#### How did family history help?

They saw examples of mercy, justice, truth, peace at work



# Blessed are the Peacemakers: How can we be ministers of reconciliation?



#### Our Task as Ministers of Reconciliation

We can help others learn be truthful – to keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech.

We can be advocates for justice – helping people and systems turn from evil and do good - to make amends;

We can facilitate the seeking of peace and encourage the pursuit of it.

We can tell the stories and model mercy, grace, and forgiveness and remind others that God's ears are attentive to their prayer.

#### Psalm 85: 9-10

Surely his salvation (welfare) is night hem that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land.

Help bring Mercy and Truth together; Encourage Justice and Peace to kiss each other.

### Seek Peace and Pursue It

I Peter 3:11