

# **An Outline of the Theology of Reconciliation**

## **0.0. Vertical and horizontal reconciliation**

### **1.0. Biblical texts supporting the theology of reconciliation**

- 1.1. Romans 5:1-11**
- 1.2. 2 Corinthians 5:17-20**
- 1.3. Ephesians 2:12-20**

### **2.0. The five distinctive characteristics of Christian reconciliation**

- 2.1. It is God who reconciles; we participate in God's reconciling activity**
- 2.2. In reconciliation, God begins with the victim**
- 2.3. In reconciliation, God makes of the victim and the wrongdoer a "new creation" (2 Cor 5:17)**
- 2.4. We place our suffering in the story of the passion, death and resurrection of Christ (Phil 3:10-11)**
- 2.5. Reconciliation will not be completed until God will be "all in all" (I Cor 15:28)**

### **4.0 Secular equivalents of the five distinctive characteristics of reconciliation**

### **5.0. Some consequences of such thinking**

- 5.1. No offense is isolated or is only what it appears to be; it is rooted in a wider social history**
- 5.2. The mystery of evil haunts the work of reconciliation**
- 5.3. Healing is about change, not restoration**
- 5.4. Reconciliation is a spirituality and an act of the imagination**

## THE SPIRITUALITY OF RECONCILIATION

- 1.0. Contributions and perspectives from other traditions
  - 1.1. Muslim traditions
  - 1.2. Jewish traditions
  - 1.3. Buddhist traditions
  - 1.4. Secular traditions
- 2.0. Christian spirituality in the process of reconciliation
  - 2.1. Recollection and contemplative prayer as spiritual disciplines
  - 2.2. The role of wounds in the process of reconciliation
  - 2.3. The role of memory and the “dangerous memory” of Jesus Christ
  - 2.4. The creation of spaces of safety and hospitality
  - 2.5. Imagining peace
- 3.0. Where is God in the midst of all of this?
  - 3.1. Theodicy and images of God
  - 3.2. God and the question of meaning
- 4.0. The use of the psalms of lament (e.g., Ps 6, 13, 22, 27, 102, 130, 142)
  - 4.1. Cry to God: finding voice
  - 4.2. Lament: what has happened to me? Why did this happen, O God?
  - 4.3. Oracle of salvation: confession of trust
  - 4.4. Petition: regaining agency
  - 4.5. Vow of praise: a new beginning