**Difficult Relationships**

***Bad Blood*** *(1 of 4)* March 25-27, 2016

John Reed

**Colossians 1:19-22** For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, and by him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ’s blood on the cross.

 This includes you who were once so far away from God. You were enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions, yet now he has brought you back as his friends. He reconciled you through his death on the cross in his own human body.

**Colossians 2:13-14** You were dead because of your sins. Then God made you alive with Christ. He forgave all our sins. He canceled the record that contained the charges against us. He took it and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ’s cross.

**Message of Easter:**

**God can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**MYTH: People \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**TRUTH: God can change \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**1Timothy 1:15-16** Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for anyone else who would believe in him and receive eternal life.

**Romans 6:4** And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

**TRUTH: God can change \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!**

**James 1:1** This letter is from James, a slave of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ.

1Corinthians 15:5-8 Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day. He was seen by Peter and then by the twelve. After that, he was seen by more than five hundred of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive … Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. Last of all, I saw him, too.

**The First Step: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

“The experience of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ another

person’s condition from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”

**WHY EMPATHY IS ESSENTIAL:**

**1) We each have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

The Ladder of Inference

**2) In our stories, our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ makes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**3) In our stories, we are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Every conflict is a conflict of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Empathy is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ aid for bad blood.**

**I have made a decision today to:**

\_\_\_ Take the long walk around.

\_\_\_ Be reconciled to God.

\_\_\_ Come back for the rest of this series.