THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION:

Reconciles honestly with ______

GENESIS 32 26 ... But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" ²⁷ So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob."

• Receives courage with _____. 32 ²⁸ And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed."

• Reaches toward one's foe with _____.

33 ³ Then he crossed over before them and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

Relates to the estranged with _____.

33 ¹⁰ And Jacob said, "No, please, if I have now found favor in your sight, then receive my present from my hand, inasmuch as I have seen your face as though I had seen the face of God, and you were pleased with me.

 Rights real wrongs with _____.
 33 ¹¹ Please, take my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough." So he urged him,...

Reinforces the future with _____.

33 ¹² Then Esau said, "Let us take our journey; let us go, and I will go before you." ¹³ But Jacob said to him, "My lord knows that the children are weak, and the flocks and herds which are nursing are with me. And if the men should drive them hard one day, all the flock will die. ¹⁴ Please let my lord go on ahead before his servant. I will lead on slowly at a pace which the livestock that go before me, and the children, are able to endure,...."

Recalls one's own promises with ______.

33 ¹⁴until I come to my lord in Seir."

Retains household with ______

33 ¹⁵...Esau said, "Now let me leave with you some of the people who are with me." But he said, "What need is there? Let me find favor in the sight of my lord." ¹⁶ So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir. ¹⁷ And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, built himself a house, and made booths for his livestock....

Remembers God's promise with _____.

33 ¹⁸ Then Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padan Aram; and he pitched his tent before the city. ¹⁹ And he bought the parcel of land, where he had pitched his tent, from the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for one hundred pieces of money.

• Reveres God with ______. 33 ²⁰ Then he erected an altar there and called it El Elohe Israel.

Restores relationship with _____.

35 ²⁷ Then Jacob came to his father Isaac at Mamre,...where Abraham...had dwelt.

GENESIS 33

¹ Now Jacob lifted his eyes and looked, and there, Esau was coming, and with him were four hundred men. So he divided the children among Leah, Rachel, and the two maidservants. ² And he put the maidservants and their children in front, Leah and her children behind, and Rachel and Joseph last. ³ Then he crossed over before them and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

⁴ But Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept. ⁵ And he lifted his eyes and saw the women and children, and said, "Who are these with you?"

So he said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant." ⁶ Then the maidservants came near, they and their children, and bowed down. ⁷ And Leah also came near with her children, and they bowed down. Afterward Joseph and Rachel came near, and they bowed down.

⁸ Then Esau said, "What do you mean by all this company which I met?"

And he said, "These are to find favor in the sight of my lord."

⁹ But Esau said, "I have enough, my brother; keep what you have for vourself."

¹⁰ And Jacob said, "No, please, if I have now found favor in your sight, then receive my present from my hand, inasmuch as I have seen your face as though I had seen the face of God, and you were pleased with me. ¹¹ Please, take my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough." So he urged him, and he took it.

¹² Then Esau said, "Let us take our journey; let us go, and I will go before vou."

¹³ But Jacob said to him, "My lord knows that the children are weak, and the flocks and herds which are nursing are with me. And if the men should drive them hard one day, all the flock will die. ¹⁴ Please let my lord go on ahead before his servant. I will lead on slowly at a pace which the livestock that go before me, and the children, are able to endure, until I come to my lord in Seir."

¹⁵ And Esau said, "Now let me leave with you some of the people who are with me."

But he said, "What need is there? Let me find favor in the sight of my lord." ¹⁶ So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir. ¹⁷ And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, built himself a house, and made booths for his livestock. Therefore the name of the place is called Succoth.

¹⁸ Then Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem, which *is* in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padan Aram; and he pitched his tent before the city. ¹⁹ And he bought the parcel of land, where he had pitched his tent, from the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for one hundred pieces of money. ²⁰ Then he erected an altar there and called it El Elohe Israel.

Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

THE PRIORITY OF OUR UNITY

PSALM 133

¹ Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* for brethren to dwell together in unity!
² *It is* like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garments.
³ *It is* like the dew of Hermon, descending upon the mountains of Zion;

for there the Lord commanded the blessing — life forevermore.

JOHN 13 ³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

JOHN 17 ²⁰ "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

ROMANS 12 ¹⁸ If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

²⁰"If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head."
²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1 CORINTHIANS 1 ¹⁰ Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you, but *that* you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

EPHESIANS 4 ¹ I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, ² with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, ³ endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

PHILIPPIANS 2 ² fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind. ³ *Let* nothing *be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

HEBREWS 13 ¹ Let brotherly love continue.

1 PETER 3 ⁸ Finally, all *of you be* of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, *be* tenderhearted, *be* courteous; ⁹ not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. ¹⁰ For

"He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil,

and his lips from speaking deceit.

¹¹ Let him turn away from evil and do good;

let him seek peace and pursue it.

¹² For the eyes of the Lord *are* on the righteous,

and His ears are open to their prayers;

but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

1 JOHN 3 ¹¹ For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, ¹² not as Cain *who* was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous....

¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love *his* brother abides in death. ¹⁵ Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

¹⁶ By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

1 JOHN 4 ⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

²⁰ If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? ²¹ And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God *must* love his brother also.

"Never ruin an apology with an excuse." Kimberly Johnson

THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION:

• Reconciles honestly with The Lord first.

GENESIS 32 ²⁶ ...But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" ²⁷ So He said to him, "What *is* your name?" He said, "Jacob."

• Receives courage with God-given identity.

32 ²⁸ And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed."

Reaches toward one's foe with <u>true humility</u>.

33 ³ Then he crossed over before them and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

Relates to the estranged with great respect.

33 ¹⁰ And Jacob said, "No, please, if I have now found favor in your sight, then receive my present from my hand, inasmuch as I have seen your face as though I had seen the face of God, and you were pleased with me.

• Rights real wrongs with personal resources.

33 ¹¹ Please, take my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough." So he urged him,...

• Reinforces the future with healthy boundaries.

33 ¹² Then Esau said, "Let us take our journey; let us go, and I will go before you."
¹³ But Jacob said to him, "My lord knows that the children *are* weak, and the flocks and herds which are nursing *are* with me. And if the men should drive them hard one day, all the flock will die. ¹⁴ Please let my lord go on ahead before his servant. I will lead on slowly at a pace which the livestock that go before me, and the children, are able to endure,...."

• Recalls one's own promises with wise caution.

33 ¹⁴until I come to my lord in Seir."

• Retains household with independence.

 33 ¹⁵...Esau said, "Now let me leave with you *some* of the people who *are* with me." But he said, "What need is there? Let me find favor in the sight of my lord."
 ¹⁶ So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir. ¹⁷ And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, built himself a house, and made booths for his livestock....

• Remembers God's promise with real investment.

33 ¹⁸ Then Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem, which *is* in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padan Aram; and he pitched his tent before the city. ¹⁹ And he bought the parcel of land, where he had pitched his tent, from the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for one hundred pieces of money.

Reveres God with worshipping Who He is.

33 ²⁰ Then he erected an altar there and called it El Elohe Israel.

• Restores relationship with the whole family.

35 27 Then Jacob came to his father Isaac at Mamre,...where Abraham...had dwelt.

GENESIS 33

¹ Now Jacob lifted his eyes and looked, and there, Esau was coming, and with him were four hundred men. So he divided the children among Leah, Rachel, and the two maidservants. ² And he put the maidservants and their children in front, Leah and her children behind, and Rachel and Joseph last. ³ Then he crossed over before them and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

⁴ But Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept. ⁵ And he lifted his eyes and saw the women and children, and said, "Who *are* these with you?"

So he said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant." ⁶ Then the maidservants came near, they and their children, and bowed down. ⁷ And Leah also came near with her children, and they bowed down. Afterward Joseph and Rachel came near, and they bowed down.

⁸ Then Esau said, "What *do* you *mean by* all this company which I met?"

And he said, "These are to find favor in the sight of my lord."

⁹ But Esau said, "I have enough, my brother; keep what you have for yourself."

¹⁰ And Jacob said, "No, please, if I have now found favor in your sight, then receive my present from my hand, inasmuch as I have seen your face as though I had seen the face of God, and you were pleased with me. ¹¹ Please, take my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough." So he urged him, and he took *it*.

¹² Then Esau said, "Let us take our journey; let us go, and I will go before you."

¹³ But Jacob said to him, "My lord knows that the children *are* weak, and the flocks and herds which are nursing *are* with me. And if the men should drive them hard one day, all the flock will die. ¹⁴ Please let my lord go on ahead before his servant. I will lead on slowly at a pace which the livestock that go before me, and the children, are able to endure, until I come to my lord in Seir."

¹⁵ And Esau said, "Now let me leave with you *some* of the people who *are* with me."

But he said, "What need is there? Let me find favor in the sight of my lord." ¹⁶ So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir. ¹⁷ And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, built himself a house, and made booths for his livestock. Therefore the name of the place is called Succoth.

¹⁸ Then Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem, which *is* in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padan Aram; and he pitched his tent before the city. ¹⁹ And he bought the parcel of land, where he had pitched his tent, from the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for one hundred pieces of money. ²⁰ Then he erected an altar there and called it El Elohe Israel.

Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

BREAK DIVIDING WALLS

by David Ruis

There is a place of commanded blessing Where brethren in unity dwell A place where anointing oil is flowing Where we will live as one

You have called us to be one body You have called us as friends Joined together in the bond of the Spirit Until the end

Father we join with the prayer of Jesus As You are so let us be one Joined together in unity and purpose All for the love of Your Son

We will break dividing walls, we will break dividing walls We will break dividing walls in the name of Your Son We will break dividing walls, we will break dividing walls We will be one

Between the men and the women And the Father and His children Those walls yes they're coming down Between the young and the old With their traditions grown cold Those walls are coming down

Between the black and the white The Hispanic and the Asian Those walls yes they're coming down Between the Jew and the Gentile and all of the nations Those walls are coming down

Between the Baptists and the Methodists The Presbyterians and the Lutherans Those walls yes they're coming down The Pentecostals and Charismatics And all the fanatics Those walls are coming down