

# Small Group Discussion Guide

Sermon: "Love Distributed" (an homage to MLK's prophetic call for justice) • Pastor Mel Baga, D.Min. • Jan 24, 2026

## OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You have reconciled us to Yourself and entrusted us with Your work of reconciliation. Open our hearts, align our lives, and teach us how to carry Your love into the world. Amen.

## OPEN

As you arrive today, what word best names your posture toward justice right now? (hopeful, weary, cautious, convicted, uncertain, engaged)

## READ

Read 2 Corinthians 5:18–21 twice, slowly. After the second reading, share one word or phrase that lingered with you.

## DISCUSS

Pick as many as time allows

1. Paul says reconciliation begins with God. Why does it matter that justice does not begin with us, but with what God has already done in Christ?
2. What does it mean to be called an "ambassador" rather than an owner, enforcer, or architect of reconciliation?
3. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. often spoke of the "moral arc" bending toward justice. What dangers arise when we assume justice happens automatically?
4. How does the cross of Jesus shape or challenge our ideas of justice, power, and change?
5. Where do you notice tension between reconciliation as a spiritual reality and reconciliation as a public, lived reality?

## **PRACTICE**

Choose one practice for the coming week:

- **Relational realignment:** Identify one relationship where reconciliation feels unfinished. Pray daily for the grace to take one faithful step toward peace.
- **Public love practice:** Look for one concrete way to make love visible this week—through advocacy, generosity, listening, or service.
- **Prophetic attentiveness:** Pay attention to where injustice surfaces in your daily life (work, neighborhood, news). Ask: What would it mean to respond as an ambassador of Christ here?
- **Community prayer:** Pray this simple prayer each day: “Lord Jesus, realign my life to Your cross and teach me how to carry Your reconciling love.”

## **REFLECTION**

Where might God be inviting you not just to believe in reconciliation, but to participate in it?

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Reconciling God, You have made peace through the cross of Jesus Christ and entrusted that peace to fragile people like us. Keep us from passivity and pride. Bend our hearts toward Your love, align our lives to Your Son, and send us as ambassadors of reconciliation for the healing of the world. Amen.