

**THEREFORE, IF YOU ARE  
OFFERING YOUR GIFT AT  
THE ALTAR AND THERE  
REMEMBER THAT YOUR  
BROTHER OR SISTER HAS  
SOMETHING AGAINST YOU,  
LEAVE YOUR GIFT THERE IN  
FRONT OF THE ALTAR.  
FIRST GO AND BE  
RECONCILED TO THEM;  
THEN COME AND OFFER  
YOUR GIFT. *Matthew 5:23-24***

Throughout His Word, God teaches us that we are to be at peace with one another. He reminds us that mercy, not sacrifice, is very important to Him. How many times have we offended God? Many more than we can count for sure! Yet, many of us are quick to repent and ask God for forgiveness so our relationship with him is at peace. Why, then, is it so hard for us to humble ourselves, repent, and ask for forgiveness from each other, so that our relationships may also be at peace? Let us show others, especially those who don't know Jesus, what Christian love looks like by refusing to become offended, to not offend, and when we do, to humble ourselves and be quick to repent, regardless if we feel we are right or wrong. By doing this, we not only keep our hearts pure before God, but we show others – by our actions – the true unconditional love of the Father.

### PRAYER

Lord, thank You for forgiving my many offenses against You. I don't want to be a hypocrite who receives Your mercy and love yet refuses to give it. Holy Spirit, show me the people I have unresolved conflicts with so I can make amends and be at peace with them. Lord, I ask for You to crush my pride, remove my desire to always be right, teach me love and show mercy like You do, and lead me in peace with those around me.

### CALL TO ACTION

Reach out to the person you need to be reconciled with. It may be something petty, or it may be something that has deep wounds. You may think you were wrong, or you may think you were right. That isn't what matters most...to God. What matters to Him, is that we obey His Word by being at peace with each other.