

**DEVELOPING A MODEL OF FORGIVENESS AND RECONCILIATION FOR  
LEBANON FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD, LEBANON, MISSOURI**

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This project developed a model of forgiveness and reconciliation that brought healing to attendees at Lebanon First Assembly of God, Lebanon, Missouri, who had been wrongfully hurt. The model consists of the processes of offering forgiveness, seeking forgiveness, and reconciliation. The phases and details of these processes evolved from biblical-theological and psychological research done on the concepts of forgiveness and reconciliation.

This project presented practical ways to progress in three processes of the model of forgiveness and reconciliation. It also gave guidelines for interacting with opponents who do not desire reconciliation. Descriptions of the barriers to offering and seeking forgiveness highlighted the fears commonly associated with these two processes. In addition, the differences between offering forgiveness and activities such as forgoing justice, condoning wrongdoing, and manipulating opponents are outlined.

Exposure to the model of forgiveness and reconciliation came through small group lectures, group interactions, printed materials, and personal assignments. The benefits of offering and seeking forgiveness provided participants with incentives to offer forgiveness to and seek forgiveness from their opponents. Surveys confirmed the effectiveness of the model in helping participants experience progress in offering forgiveness to their opponents. The surveys also provided evidence of the model's success in correcting participants' erroneous views and misconceptions about forgiveness and reconciliation.