**Race – Where Do We Stand?**

**Having a Heart for Reconciliation:**

**Lessons on Reconciliation from Jacob, Joseph, and Jesus**

Lesson #1: People who have hurt us can still be children of God. (Gen. 28:10-17)

Lesson #2: People who have hurt others can end up needing those they have hurt. (Gen. 42:6)

Lesson #3: People who hurt us are God’s works in progress, just like we are. We’re complicated!

Lesson #4: Sometimes we remain hurt even though we say that we are no longer hurt. (Gen. 41:51-52; 42:7, 9)

Lesson #5: Reconciliation requires us to be honest about our hurts in order for our heart to begin to be healed. (Gen. 43:24, 29&30)

Lesson # 6: Reconciliation requires us to deal with our hurt heart in order to be healed from our past hurts. (Gen. 44:1-17)

Lesson #7: Reconciliation requires us to release past hurts. (Gen. 45:2)

Lesson #8: Reconciliation requires a change of heart. (Gen. 32:9-10)

Lesson #9: Reconciliation can require us to face our fears. (Gen. 32:7)

Lesson #10: Reconciliation requires us to trust God with an uncertain future. (Gen. 32:11-12)

Lesson #11: Before we reconcile, it’s okay to test the motivation of the party with whom we may reconcile. (Gen. 42:15)

Lesson #12: Reconciliation cannot be bought; it is a gift from God. (Gen. 32:22-32; 33:1-4)

Lesson #13: Reconciliation has to be a part of God’s plan. (John 4:4)

Lesson #14: Reconciliation requires us to recognize the hand of God in the plan for our lives. (Gen. 45:5, 7)

Lesson #15: Never doubt what God can do in terms of bringing about reconciliation.

Lesson #16: Reconciliation may require us to engage in some socially taboo conversations. (John 4:7-9)

Lesson #17: Reconciliation requires the presence and action of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Lesson #18: Co-existing can be a form of reconciliation. (Gen. 31:10-17)