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# SESSION 5

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Based on Episode 5 | Carl

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## Synopsis of the Episode

In this episode, Helen's brother, Daniel, arrives from Trinidad for Vernon's funeral. Not long after he arrives, he clashes with Helen's neighbour Carl, who is homosexual, and punches him. Carl calls the police and threatens to charge Daniel with a hate crime unless Daniel apologises. Daniel claims that his anger is 'righteous' and seeks Fr Michael's support. Fr. Michael attempts, but fails, to reconcile Carl, Daniel and Helen. In the end it is the bond between Helen and Carl's late mother, Brenda, that brings about reconciliation.

## Suggested Bible Passage

Matthew 5.43-48

## Reconciliation

Throughout the episode, Fr Michael tries time and time again to bring about reconciliation between Daniel and Carl but seems to fail.

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- Why do you think his attempts to reconcile Karl and Daniel were so unsuccessful?
  - And what do you think eventually allowed the reconciliation to take place?
  - You might like to bring reflections into your conversation from Matthew 5.43-48.
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## Righteous Anger

Daniel claims that he punched Carl in righteous anger.

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- Can anger ever be righteous?
  - If yes, when can you call it righteous?
  - Was Daniel's anger righteous?
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## A world without religion

When he is talking to Fr Michael, at one point Carl said 'The world will be a better place when Catholicism and all world religions are consigned to history.'

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- How would you respond, if someone said that to you?
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## Closing Prayer

Spend some time in prayer. If you feel comfortable this could be a time of open prayer or you could use the biddings and prayer below:

We pray for all those in need of reconciliation, for countries, regions, families and friends torn apart by hatred ....

Lord, hear us

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For those whose anger and hurt is all consuming...

Lord, hear us

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For all those who seek to bring peace...

Lord, hear us

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

God of unbounded grace,  
you declare the power of your reconciling love  
in the death and resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Teach us, who live only in your forgiveness,  
to forgive one another;  
heal our divisions and cast out our fears;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

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