

Do Not Quarrel
On The
Way

Genesis 45:3-24

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3 And Joseph said unto his brethren, I am Joseph; doth my father yet live? And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence.

4 And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.

5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.

6 For these two years hath the famine been in the land: and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earing nor harvest.

Genesis 45:3-24 - continued

7 And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

9 Haste ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus saith thy son Joseph, God hath made me lord of all Egypt: come down unto me, tarry not:

10 And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast:

Genesis 45:3-24 - continued

11 And there will I nourish thee; for yet there are five years of famine; lest thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast, come to poverty.

12 And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaketh unto you.

13 And ye shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that ye have seen; and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither.

14 And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck.

15 Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him.

Genesis 45:3-24 - continued

16 And the fame thereof was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, Joseph's brethren are come: and it pleased Pharaoh well, and his servants.

17 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Say unto thy brethren, This do ye; lade your beasts, and go, get you unto the land of Canaan;

18 And take your father and your households, and come unto me: and I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and ye shall eat the fat of the land.

19 Now thou art commanded, this do ye; take you wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wives, and bring your father, and come.

Genesis 45:3-24 - continued

20 Also regard not your stuff; for the good of all the land of Egypt is your's.

21 And the children of Israel did so: and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provision for the way.

22 To all of them he gave each man changes of raiment; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver, and five changes of raiment.

23 And to his father he sent after this manner; ten asses laden with the good things of Egypt, and ten she asses laden with corn and bread and meat for his father by the way.

Genesis 45:3-24 - continued

24 So he sent his brethren away, and they departed: and he said unto them, See that ye fall not out by the way.

Introduction

A. There are many excuses to start an argument

1. To prove your point

2. To deny blame

3. Just to stir up trouble

B. Arguments can detract from bigger issues

C. Joseph knew his brothers' history

I. The Call For Peace In Relationships

Matthew 5:9

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

A. God desires unity among his people

Psalm 133:1

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

John 17:22

And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

I. The Call For Peace In Relationships

B. Reconciliation is God's will for his people

1. Starts with being reconciled to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

2. Continues with a commitment to God

2 Corinthians 5:19

To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

I. The Call For Peace In Relationships

B. Reconciliation is God's will for his people - continued

3. Concludes with having the character of Christ

Ephesians 4:32

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

II. The Danger of Division in the Midst of Blessing

James 4:1

From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?

A. Unresolved conflict can hinder blessing

Mark 11:25

And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

II. The Danger of Division in the Midst of Blessing

B. Divisions lead to destruction

James 3:14-16

14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.

15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.

16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

Mark 3:35

And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.

III. The Power Of Focus On The Goal

A. The call to keep our eyes on the prize

Philippians 3:14

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

III. The Power Of Focus On The Goal

B. Distractions can delay God's purpose

Galatians 5:7-8

7 Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?

8 This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you.

Luke 9:62

And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

**Fight For The Cause Of Christ
Not Among Ourselves**