SURVIVING FAMILY CONFLICT

GENESIS 45

"If you're drawn into a controversy, use very hard arguments and very soft words!" **– C.H. Spurgeon**

"Our love ought to follow the love of God in one point, namely, in always seeking to produce reconciliation. It was to this end that God sent His Son." – **C.H. Spurgeon**

2 Corinthians 5:18–19 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us **the ministry of reconciliation:** [19] that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us **the message of reconciliation.**

Peace making is not the same thing as peace-_____. A peacemaker longs for peace, and works for peace, and _____ for peace!

Matthew 5:9; Romans 12:18

Don't let the rupture in the relationship be _____ _____!

Be Spirit-controlled, not _____ of control!

We must practice reconciliation …

2. By possessing the Spirit of Christ toward our _____!

In order to demonstrate Christ we must …

1) Show genuine _____! **– V. 1-3**

The greatest witness to _____ Christianity is demonstrated in the way we handle conflict!

Joseph's genuineness was demonstrated in his emotional _____! **– Romans 12:14–17**

2) Demonstrate great _____! **– V. 14-15**

Matthew 5:43-48 {Page **1475** Pew Bible}**; 1 John 4:20–21**

3) Model true _____! **– V. 4-8**

There were no _____ with Joseph's forgiveness!

Forgiveness is truly _____ go!

Psalm 103:12; Isaiah 43:25

He made a choice to not _____ on the past and look to the future!

4) Act in profound _____! **– V. 9-13**

Joseph understood *(by faith)* that every event that transpired in his life was orchestrated by God and had _____ value! **– Romans 8:28**

3. By expressing a _____ to live free from the past! – V. 24

Joseph new that to live free from the past one must …

1) Demand that all _____ cease!

2) Refuse to hold _____! **– James 5:8–9**

We are only responsible for our _____ actions!