

“Joseph's Promise” by Kirk Hunt

But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

Genesis 50:20-21 KJV

With tears in his eyes Zaphnathpaaneah, the Pharaoh's Chancellor, faced the Hebrew men who had wronged him. Their betrayal had cost him years of slavery and prison. With his power and position he could exact a terrible vengeance. With a word, he could have doomed the foreigners.

With tears in his eyes, Joseph faced the brothers who had betrayed and nearly murdered him. Gently, he spoke life. With humility, he promised forgiveness. Joseph promised, then delivered.

His brothers were right to be afraid. Joseph loved his father and while he lived, he would avoid causing him more grief and sorrow. With Jacob dead and buried, Joseph had no reason to restrain his power.

Joseph's promise is an example of mercy, grace and forgiveness put in action. It would have been too easy to listen to his scars and marks. Instead Joseph listened to God's Heart.

What promises should you make? Will you speak life and forgiveness, or something else? Will your promises flow from your heart or God's?

Think: Mercy, grace and forgiveness come from the heart of God.

Pray: “Lord, I promise to follow Your heart .”

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