Rightly Dealing with Wrongs

Ken Chapman · Genesis 50:15–21

INTRODUCTION

- We have a wrong way of handling when you feel like you've been wronged. Let's kill him or sell him as a slave. And then we have the proper way of reacting when we've been wrong. And that is forgiveness.
- Someone is going to feel wronged by you, and you're going to feel wronged by someone. Whether that is true or just perceived, it's going to happen.

1 When I Have Wronged Someone: Be Humble

1 Corinthians 13:4–7

- Need to be humble and recognize that it is possible for me to do wrong.
- It's even possible in some scenarios for me to do right, but to do it in a wrong way.
- Love suffers long and is kind. Love does not envy. Love does not parade itself, is not puffed up.
- Love, the essential quality of the child of God, demands that I be humble enough to be corrected.

2 Be Contrite

- Being contrite just simply means that if I've wronged someone, I need to own up to it.
- I believe contriteness and an apology demands that we be careful with our language.
- None of this, well, I'm sorry you took it that way.
- Many times the fewer words the better.

3 Be Proactive

Matthew 5:23–24

- I must do whatever I can in my humility and in my contrition to make it right, so that I can be right with God.
- Leave your gift there before the altar and go your way. First, be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.
- Our worship will be affected, nay, hindered by improper relationships.
- You have somebody that you have wronged, you go and make it right.

4 When I Have Been Wronged: Be Gentle

2 Timothy 2:24–26; Colossians 3:12–13

- A servant of the Lord must not quarrel, but be gentle with all. Able to teach, patient, in humility, correcting those who are in opposition.
- If I am to correct someone who has wronged God in patience and humility and gentleness, then how am I to correct someone who's wronged just me?

- Put on tender mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long suffering, bearing with one another, and forgiving one another.
- I'll put up with you if you'll put up with me. And that doesn't mean we tolerate sin.

5 Be Honest

2 Corinthians 7:2

- If I have to be humble if I am the offending party, then I must be honest if I'm the offended party.
- When we feel like we've been wronged, we have the tendency to exaggerate our hurt.
- One person says something to me, does something to me, and so I say, all of those Christians are hateful hypocrites.
- Open your hearts to us. We've wronged no one. We've corrupted no one. And we've defrauded no one.

6 Be Proactive: First, Go to Him

Matthew 18:15

- Moreover, if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault. Between you and him alone. If he hears you've gained your brother.
- The one who has done the wrong has left his gift at the altar, and he's on his way to make things right.
- And the one who has been wrong is now going to him to try to make things right.
- Don't be like Joseph's brothers. Be a Joseph.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Make things right with one another and make things right with God this very day.**

MY NOTES