

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" Genesis 50:15 (NIV)

Pay Back

Has someone done something evil against you? Are you having a hard time forgiving them? Are you carrying a grudge and thinking ways to pay them back? I would never try to pay someone back for the evil that they have done against me. **You would just think about a lot of different ways to pay them back.** I suppose so. **It does you no good to carry a grudge. Failing to forgive others harms you far more than it harms them. It is a heavy burden to carry unforgiveness around in your heart and on your mind. Unforgiveness will eat you alive from the inside out. Unforgiveness will make you a bitter person. I have forgiven you of all your sins.** Yes, I am so thankful that you have forgiven me of all my sins. **I expect you to forgive others of the evil that they have done against you.** Yes Lord, I will forgive others of the evil that they have done against me. **Extending forgiveness to others may open up an opportunity for you to minister to them. You will be doing what those that are of the world do not do. They may wonder why you are so kind and loving and forgiving. Then you will have an opportunity to tell them about me.** That would be amazing.

There is something very important that I want you to remember. What's that? **I can bring good out of the evil that has been done against you. Can you think of ways that I have already brought good out of evil that has been done against you?** Yes, in some ways evil that has been done against me has changed the entire course of my life. You have been able to redirect my life in response to the evil that has been done against me. You have been able to send me in a new direction and use me to do new things for you as a result of something evil that has been done against me. **That's right. I didn't author the evil. I didn't bring the evil against you. But, I have been able to bring good out of evil that has been done to you.** That is for sure. There is no doubt about that. **Let me ask you a couple questions. If you allowed yourself to hold on to unforgiveness and grudges would you be able to recognize the good that I had brought into your life as a result of the evil done against you?** No, probably not. **How long has it taken for you to be able to look back to see the good that I have brought out of evil done against you?** Sometimes, it has taken quite a bit of time. **Yes, it has. Will you forgive others? Will you let go of grudges? Will you stop think about paying others back for the evil that has ben done against you? Will you wait to see the good that I will bring into your life even out of evil that has been done against you?** Yes Lord, I will.

Lord, I have had a hard time forgiving others of evil they have done to me. It has been easy to carry a grudge and think about ways to pay them back. No more. I will forgive others and wait to see the good you will bring even out of the evil done against me. Amen

If *Holds A Grudge*

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?"

NIV Genesis 50:15

If *Hate Us*

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him."

ESV Genesis 50:15

If *Show His Anger*

But now that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers became fearful. "Now Joseph will show his anger and pay us back for all the wrong we did to him," they said.

NLT Genesis 50:15

If *Hate Us*

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "Perhaps Joseph will hate us, and may actually repay us for all the evil which we did to him."

NKJV Genesis 50:15

If *Bears A Grudge*

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?"

NRSV Genesis 50:15

If *Carrying A Grudge*

After the funeral, Joseph's brothers talked among themselves: "What if Joseph is carrying a grudge and decides to pay us back for all the wrong we did him?"

MSG Genesis 50:15

If *Hate Us*

When Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Perhaps now Joseph will hate us and will pay us back for all the evil we did to him.

AMP Genesis 50:15

If *Pay Us Back*

But now that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers were frightened. "Now Joseph will pay us back for all the evil we did to him," they said.

TLB Genesis 50:15

If *Bears A Grudge*

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong which we did to him!"

NASB Genesis 50:15

If *Still Angry*

After Jacob died, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph is still angry with us? We did many wrong things to him. What if he plans to pay us back?"

NCV Genesis 50:15

Holds A Grudge

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

If – Genesis 50:15

In Context: *Read Genesis 50*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" Genesis 50:15

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

When | Joseph's brothers | saw that | their father | was dead, | they said, | "What if | Joseph | holds a grudge | against us | and | pays us back | for all | the wrongs | we did | to him?" Genesis 50:15

Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, I have had a hard time forgiving others of evil they have done to me. It has been easy to carry a grudge and think about ways to pay them back. No more. I will forgive others and wait to see the good you will bring even out of the evil done against me. Amen

What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

When has someone done something evil against you?

When has it been hard to forgive someone for the evil they have done against you?

When have you wanted to pay someone back for the evil they have done against you?

Why will it never benefit you to carry a grudge against someone who has done evil against you?

How has a heavy burden been lifted off of you when you forgave someone and let go of a grudge?

When have you been able to recognize good that God was able to bring out of evil done against you?

Why will it usually take time and a look back to recognize how God was able to bring good out of evil done against you?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Forgive others and let go of grudges so you can see the good the Lord will be bring even out of evil done against you.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that the Lord will bring good even out of evil that has been done against you.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has brought good even out of evil done against you.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you never hold a grudge but rather recognize that God can bring good even out evil done against you.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will never hold grudges, instead I will look for the good you will bring even out of evil done against me.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what good do you want to bring out of the evil that has been done against me?
