



GOD IS ABLE TO PROVIDE, Part 4  
Sermon Small Group Notes  
Speaker: Pastor Raymond Beaty

## USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

- This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. After considering the needs of your group, you may choose one of the following options:
  1. one section of questions
  2. one or two questions from each section
- Feel free to adapt the format to meet the needs of your group. If your group is mature and wants to dig deeper, add Scripture and ask suitable questions. Remember that this is only a guide.
- Personal application is key to everyone's growth and should be included in every discussion. When asked how he or she intends to apply a certain principle a group member may say, "I need to spend more time in the Bible and in prayer." It is important for you to help group members make applications that are more specific and commit to a specific plan of action by asking, for example, "How are you going to begin?" An example is to get up 30 minutes earlier each morning, spending 15 minutes reading the Bible and 10 minutes in prayer. Encourage each group member to be accountable to the group for personal progress at the next meeting.
- As the leader your goal is to help bring the group into a stimulating discussion that helps the members recognize their need for personal life change. Ultimately you want them to be willing to commit to change with accountability to the group. Accountability helps us to persevere in our commitments and achieve the blessings of success.

## INTRODUCTION

God is able to restore broken relationships. That is powerful isn't it, think about it, restoring broken relationships. There is not a person in the room who has not been impacted by a broken relationship. Sometimes we are the ones who broke the relationship, sometimes it is the other person. Sometimes we have no idea how it got broken, we just know that it is and don't know what to do about it.

If just saying, "God is able to restore broken relationships" is all we needed to do, we could wrap this thing up here pretty quick and head out to eat. But we all know saying it or even believing it ,doesn't automatically fix it. There seems to be a lot of moving parts to the restoration process and everyone has to do their part.

You can not restore broken relationships, only God is able to restore broken relationships.

You can reconcile but only God can restore

- Reconciliation allows you to accept the way it is.
- Restoration allows you to enjoy the way it was meant to be.

God is able to **restore** broken relationships, not just **mend** them.

What is our part in restoring broken relationships?

- You have three responsibilities in restoring broken relationships.

1. Live a life of dreams and then wait.

Let's focus on a story in Genesis starting in chapter 37 out of the life of Joseph.

Jacob loved Joseph more than he did any of his other sons, because Joseph was born after Jacob was very old. Jacob had given Joseph a fancy coat to show that he was his favorite son, and so Joseph's brothers hated him and would not be friendly to him.

One day, Joseph told his brothers what he had dreamed, and they hated him even more. (Genesis 37:3-5 CEV)

Listen, that dream, in the beginning of his walk thru life... is what got him thru the rest of the walk in his life.

What is the dream of God for your life?

There have been times in your life where you have felt in your chest there was something you were called to do etching that made you think, "I was made for this."

Something that made your heart beat faster, brought joy to your face. Or maybe it was a burden, something you felt so intensely that you fell in a heap and cried like a baby.

Or something that made you so angry you felt that if you didn't do something you would explode. Welcome to the dream of God for your life.

As we walk out the dream, He prepares us for the restoration of broken relationships.

God won't restore relationships to a bitter angry person. Chasing after the dream strips away the bitterness.

When people see you living the dream they will want to be restored to you, that's Gods part.

## 2. Live a life of integrity and then wait.

The Ishmaelites took Joseph to Egypt and sold him to Potiphar, the king's official in charge of the palace guard. 2-3 So Joseph lived in the home of Potiphar, his Egyptian owner. Soon Potiphar realized that the Lord was helping Joseph to be successful in whatever he did. Potiphar liked Joseph and made him his personal assistant, putting him in charge of his house and all of his property. (Genesis 39:1, 2, 4 CEV)

No one was watching Joseph he could have done whatever he wanted, he had an opportunity to even sleep with his boss's wife.

and Potiphar's wife soon noticed him. She asked him to make love to her, but he refused and said, "My master isn't worried about anything in his house, because he has placed me in charge of everything he owns. No one in my master's house is more important than I am. The only thing he hasn't given me is you, and that's because you are his wife. I won't sin against God by doing such a terrible thing as this." (Genesis 39:7-9 CEV)

Joseph chose integrity

Later he gets thrown in jail for a false accusation, and he waits.

Then God restores Joseph and elevates him to being the boss of his old boss.

Living a life of integrity brings a resolve that even though you know the people around you are crazy... You are committed to the dream of God and the restoration He will bring to your life.

## 3. Live a life of service and then wait.

Potiphar became very angry and threw Joseph in the same prison where the king's prisoners were kept. While Joseph was in prison, 21 the Lord helped him and was good to him. He even made the jailer like Joseph so much that he put him in charge of the other prisoners and of everything that was done in the jail. (Genesis 39:19-22 CEV)

Joseph served and then God put him in charge of the most powerful nation of the time.

Joseph served and waited... And God did His part.

Where are you serving?

Imagine what God will do as you simply do your part and give Him a chance to restore.

## **Discussion Questions**

1. Discuss the differences between reconciliation and restoration.
2. How does it feel to know that God is responsible for restoring relationships?
3. God does the restoring and our part is actually to focus on God, not the relationship... How does that work?
4. What is the dream of God for your life?
5. Why is it difficult to focus on our dreams in the midst of relationships?
6. How does living a life of integrity help to restore relationships?
7. Where are you currently serving, or if your not, where could you serve?
8. (This one is a take home question) Take an internal survey and ask yourself this question, Am I someone I would want to be restored to?