



families, deception, and drama

Choose Healing, Not Revenge
September 28, 2025

Start your time off in prayer for any victims and families impacted by trauma. Ask God for wisdom and compassion to minister well in these difficult situations.

Read Genesis 34:7 and Ephesians 5:11-13

Why is it important to call sin what it is, especially in situations of trauma, rather than minimizing or softening it?

Read Genesis 34:5, 25–26; Ecclesiastes 3:7–8

Jacob responded passively, while Dinah’s brothers responded with vengeance. Which danger do you think Christians are more prone to today—silence/passivity or scorched-earth vengeance—and why?

Proverbs 31:8-9

Families sometimes protect their reputation rather than the victim. What are some practical ways families and churches can prioritize the needs of victims over protecting their image?

Read Romans 12:15 and Job 2:11-13

The sermon emphasized tending to emotional wounds before analyzing problems. How can we as believers “weep with those who weep” before rushing to offer solutions or explanations?

Read James 1:19

Victims need freedom to tell their story without it being managed or reframed. Why do you think it’s hard for people to simply listen without trying to fix, reinterpret, or control someone’s story?

Read Hebrews 12:14-15; Matthew 5:9

Scripture calls us to leave vengeance to God. What are some biblical steps a person or community can take to move toward healing rather than bitterness or revenge?

Matthew 18:6

The church should be “the safest place on earth for children, victims, and survivors.” What concrete steps can our small group—and our wider church—take to make this vision a reality?