

On Dec 3, 2007 8:31 AM, Gaubatz, Derek <DGaubatz@imb.org> wrote:

Dear Anne,

At this point, I would advise you to let it go. I may be reading you wrong, but it seems to me that what you still want is reconciliation.

That's not a bad thing to desire, but understand that there is an important difference between forgiveness and reconciliation. Forgiveness is up to you alone--it involves a decision by you to forgive the other person of the wrongs done to you, just as Christ has forgiven you.

It does not depend on the actions of the other person, but is purely an extension of grace on your part. Reconciliation, however, takes the work of both people. Forgiveness is a necessary, but not a sufficient condition. It requires a work of the Spirit in both people where the wronged person forgives and the perpetrator admits and confesses his sin to the person he has wronged.

In God's timing, he may orchestrate circumstances such that there is reconciliation. But for now, if you can forgive him, you'll have done everything that is within your power to do at this point.

Think of Joseph, for example. He had obviously forgiven his brothers long before God brought about the circumstances that led to reconciliation. There is no evidence that he let the lack of reconciliation in the relationship distract him from faithfully carrying out the responsibilities God gave him in the meantime and trusting that what others had intended for evil, God intended for good (and in His timing).

Hope that's helpful.

Blessings,
Derek

-----Original Message-----

From: Anne Marie Miller

Sent: Friday, November 30, 2007 6:25 PM

To: Gaubatz, Derek

Subject: Re: I told you I'd think of something

Thanks! :)

on another note, will I be able to find out any more details as far as if he confessed to anything - such as me being in the apartment, meeting my mom (the non-sexual facts) or anything at all?

thanks,

anne