**Series: Family Dynamics**

**Today: Going Back to Go Forward**

1. Does Our Past Really Affect Our Present?

Free genogram resources:

* <https://www.smartdraw.com/genogram/>
* <https://www.emotionallyhealthy.org/genogram>

***Exodus 34:6-7***

*“The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”*

***Deuteronomy 5:7-10***

*7“You shall have no other gods before me.*

*8“You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. 9You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 10but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.*

***Ezekiel 18:20***

*“The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son.”*

**Ten Commandments of Your Family**   
 **1. Money**  
**2. Conflict**  
**3. Sex**  
**4. Grief and Loss**  
**5. Expressing Anger**  
**6. Family**  
**7. Relationships**  
**8. Attitudes about other cultures**  
**9. Success**  
**10. Feelings and Emotions  
  
Genesis 50:15-21**  
*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?” So they sent word to Joseph, saying, “Your father left these instructions before he died: ‘This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.’ Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father.” When their message came to him, Joseph wept.  
  
His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “We are your slaves,” they said.  
  
But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. So then, don’t be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.” And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.*

**2. Take Home Points**

A. With God’s resources, you can break free from negative generational tendencies.

B. You cannot change the past, but you can redeem the past.

C. Forgive everyone who sins against you.

D. Honor your parents by taking the good and enhancing it.

“The Lord was with Joseph.”

The Lord is with you.