



QUARTER 1: SHADOWS

STEP INTO SCRIPTURE

WEEK 5:
REVERSAL & RECONCILIATION

QUARTER 1: SHADOWS

STEP INTO
SCRIPTURE

Welcome

Brothers from

Ekklesia Online in various locations

Eleven 22 in Florida

Bay Shore Community Church in Delaware

Branchville Christian Church in South Carolina

Crossroads North River Church in Ohio

Holmes Avenue Baptist Church in North Carolina

Little Lamb Pentecostal Holiness Church in South Carolina

Renaissance Church of Christ in Georgia

The Rock Church in South Carolina

Welcome

Sisters from

**Ekklesia Online in various locations
Callao Christian Church in Missouri
Clay Pool Church of Christ in Virginia
First Free Will Baptist Church in Tennessee
Kingsboro Church in New York
Kingsley Terrace Church of Christ in Indiana
Live Oak Community Church in Texas
Mountain Christian Church in Maryland
Northline Church in Michigan
North Ridge Church in Wisconsin
Oak Grove Church of Christ in Pennsylvania
Plymouth Church of Christ in North Carolina
Renaissance Church of Christ in Georgia
Rivers Edge Church in South Carolina
Spring Creek Church of the Nazarene in Virginia
Vansant Church of Christ in Virginia
Walnut Hill Church in Connecticut
Wellspring Church in Connecticut**

Bible Reading Plan



This Week's Reading

DAY 29 Wed, Feb 5: Genesis 48--50

DAY 30 Thu, Feb 6: Exodus 1--3

DAY 31 Fri, Feb 7: Exodus 4--6

DAY 32 Sat, Feb 8: Exodus 7--9

DAY 33 Sun, Feb 9: Exodus 10--12

DAY 34 Mon, Feb 10: Exodus 13--15

DAY 35 Tue, Feb 11: Exodus 16--18

Weekly Gatherings

30 MINUTES

Arrival, Fellowship, and Reading

30 MINUTES

Teaching

30 MINUTES

Table Discussion and Announcements



Today's Reading

Genesis 48--50

Day 29 in Step Into Scripture



GENESIS 15:13-16

13Then the LORD said to Abram, “Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. 14But I will judge the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will depart with many possessions. 15You, however, will go to your fathers in peace and be buried at a ripe old age. 16In the fourth generation your descendants will return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.”

The background is a solid teal color. It features several decorative white lines: a wavy line in the top left, a series of concentric curved lines in the top right, a wavy line in the bottom left, and a wavy line in the bottom right.

Reversal and Reconciliation

MAN'S REVENGE VS. GOD'S JUSTICE

God said that vengeance belongs to Him.

There are terms that predicate the path to reconciliation

God is sovereign and His purpose always prevails

GENESIS 34: 1-4

“Now Dinah, the daughter Leah had borne to Jacob, went out to visit the women of the land. 2 When Shechem son of Hamor the Hivite, the ruler of that area, saw her, he took her and raped her. 3 His heart was drawn to Dinah daughter of Jacob; he loved the young woman and spoke tenderly to her. 4 And Shechem said to his father Hamor, “Get me this girl as my wife.”

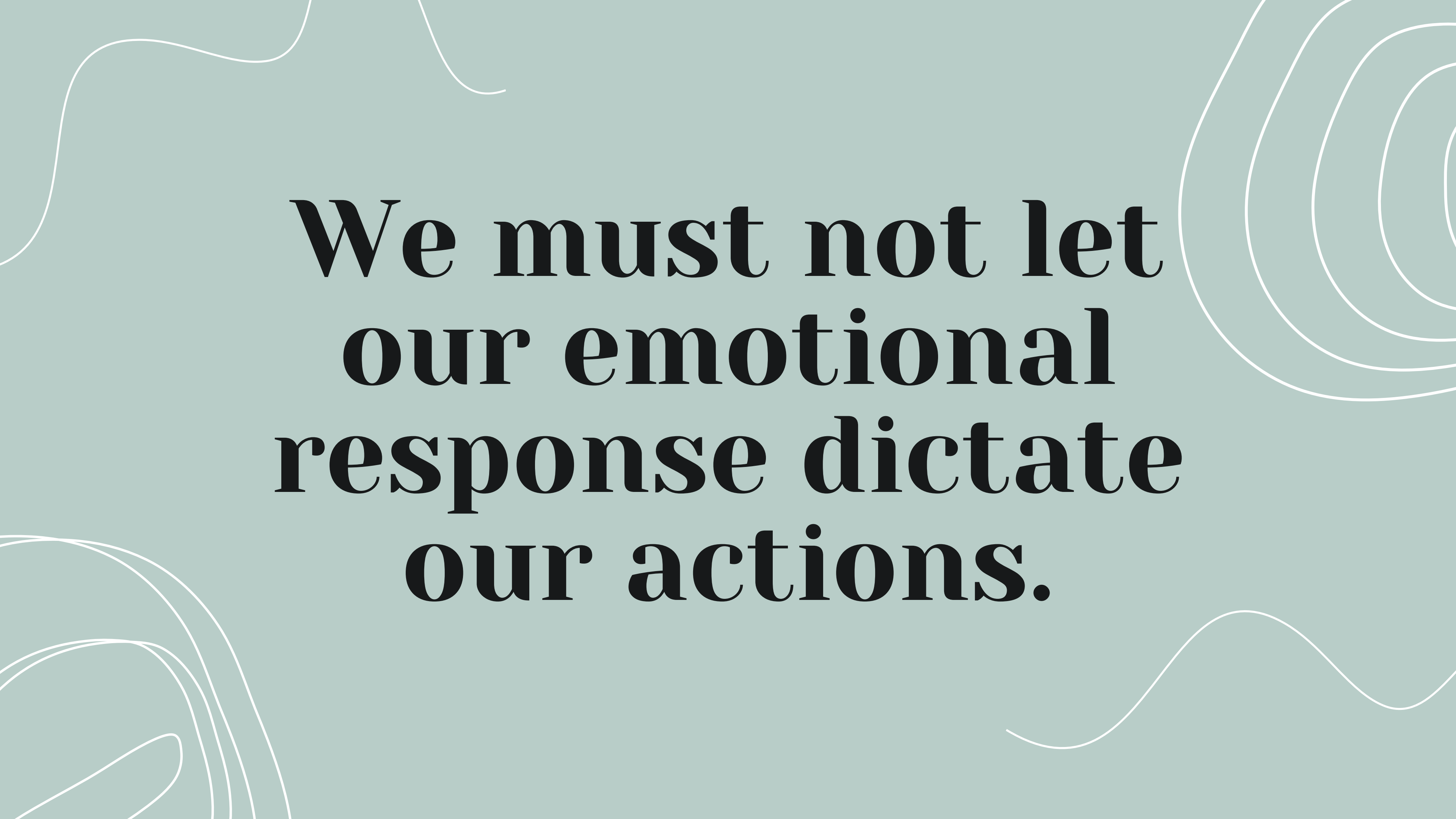
GENESIS 34: 5

5 When Jacob heard that his daughter Dinah had been defiled, his sons were in the fields with his livestock; so he did nothing about it until they came home.

GENESIS 34: 6 - 7

6 Then Shechem's father Hamor went out to talk with Jacob.

7 Meanwhile, Jacob's sons had come in from the fields as soon as they heard what had happened. They were shocked and furious, because Shechem had done an outrageous thing in Israel by sleeping with Jacob's daughter—a thing that should not be done.



**We must not let
our emotional
response dictate
our actions.**

EXODUS 21: 23 - 25

**23 But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life,
24 eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, 25
burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise**

EXODUS 9: 5 - 6

5 And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each human being, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of another human being. 6 “Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made mankind.

**God's heart for justice
demands that the
punishment fit the
crime.**

**It should be sufficient,
but not excessive.**

GENESIS 34: 8 - 29

DECEPTION

VENGEANCE

CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

**Man's revenge does not
produce justice because
it's driven by emotion and
goes beyond a punishment
that fits the crime.**

ROMANS 12:19

Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

**Key Element in Diffusing
Emotion & Keeping Peace:**

REPENTANCE

GENESIS 27:41-42

“Esau held a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him. He said to himself, “The days of mourning for my father are near; then I will kill my brother Jacob.” When Rebekah was told what her older son Esau had said, she sent for her younger son Jacob and said to him, “Your brother Esau is planning to avenge himself by killing you.”

GENESIS 29:18-28

**Jacob paid the penalty for his wrongdoing,
but it was God's justice, not Esau's
vengeance, that dealt the consequence**

GENESIS 32: 1 - 2

**1 Jacob also went on his way, and the angels of God met him. 2 When Jacob saw them, he said, “This is the camp of God!”
So he named that place Mahanaim**

GENESIS 32: 3

Jacob sent messengers ahead of him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, the country of Edom.

**God's justice does not
negate the need for
repentance or making
amends.**

GENESIS 32:6

When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, “We went to your brother Esau, and now he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him.”

GENESIS 32: 7 - 12

Jacob prays and displays:

HUMILITY

DEPENDENCE ON GOD

GENESIS 27:29

May nations serve you and peoples bow down to you. Be Lord over your brothers, and may the sons of your mother bow down to you. May those who curse you be cursed and those who bless you be blessed.

GENESIS 32:24-28

So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak." But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." The man asked him, "What is your name?" "Jacob," he answered. Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome."

Sometimes God's striving for us may look like his reducing us to a place of total dependence on him.

And if in that space, we will hold on to God with everything we have, we too will overcome.

GENESIS 33:1-9

“Jacob looked up and there was Esau, coming with his four hundred men; so he divided the children among Leah, Rachel and the two female servants. He put the female servants and their children in front, Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph in the rear. He himself went on ahead and bowed down to the ground seven times as he approached his brother. But Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him; he threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. And they wept. Then Esau looked up and saw the women and children. “Who are these with you?” he asked. Jacob answered, “They are the children God has graciously given your servant.” Then the female servants and their children approached and bowed down. Next, Leah and her children came and bowed down. Last of all came Joseph and Rachel, and they too bowed down. Esau asked, “What’s the meaning of all these flocks and herds I met?” “To find favor in your eyes, my Lord,” he said. But Esau said, “I already have plenty, my brother. Keep what you have for yourself.”

Jacob's Repentance:

**Positions himself as Esau's
servant – reversing the blessing**

**Offers Esau his wealth –
returning the birthright**

...BUT Esau doesn't need it!

Joseph's Brothers' Repentance:

- 1. Acknowledge their guilt**
- 2. Show concern for their father**
- 3. Demonstrate integrity**
- 4. Self-sacrifice (offer themselves in place of Benjamin)**
- 5. Genuine Remorse – Seek Forgiveness**

GENESIS 50:20

"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."

REVERSAL SHOWS US:

**God's sovereignty, redemption,
and how He can use even evil
for good.**

RECONCILIATION:

- **the problem is solved, forgiveness is given, and peace is restored**
- **is predicated by repentance**

LUKE 18:1-8

“Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’ “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’ ” And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?””

ROMANS 12:17-19

“Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: ‘It is mine to avenge; I will repay,’ says the Lord.”



JAMES 3:18

Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

HOSEA 12:2—6

2 The Lord has a charge to bring against Judah; he will punish Jacob according to his ways and repay him according to his deeds. 3 In the womb he grasped his brother's heel; as a man he struggled with God. 4 He struggled with the angel and overcame him; he wept and begged for his favor. He found him at Bethel and talked with him there— 5 the Lord God Almighty, the Lord is his name! 6 But you must return to your God; maintain love and justice, and wait for your God always.

**GOD IS STILL
STRIVING FOR US
TODAY. WE NEED NOT
SEEK REVENGE
BECAUSE GOD
FIGHTS FOR US.**