

NO REGRETS

2Samuel 18:31-19:4

V. 19:2: “And for the whole army the victory that day was turned into mourning, because on that day the troops heard it said, ‘The king is grieving for his son.’”

Often, a person’s age is dwarfed by the mountain of his regrets. We move into and out of each other’s lives daily; some intentionally, others necessary. Separations can be temporary or permanent. When people don’t stay connected with each other, their departure’s silence translates into missed love. People grieve lost opportunities by not loving others during their “living years”.

Instinctively, Salami understood this.

When Salami’s Dad got transferred to another state, Salami grew frantic as their moving day approached. Negotiating her way through a maze of packed moving boxes, Salami’s eyes welled up with tears. “Mom, what about Jordan and Tricia?”

“Maybe you could become pen-pals?” Salami’s Mom replied. “You’re good friends with many of the kids in 3rd grade.”

“What’s a pen-pal?”

Salami’s Mom dug out writing paper, a pen, and notebook from a still-open box. She explained, handing the objects to her daughter, “Pen-pals are friends who write to each other when they’re apart. Why don’t you write down the address of everyone you want to stay close to in the notebook? When we get settled, you can write letters to

them. They can write you back creating a pen-pal club. Whoever wants to stay in your circle will continue writing.”

Salami’s eyes danced, her smile ear-to-ear. “Good idea, Mom!”

Salami went further than just getting her friend’s addresses. She reclaimed stuffed animals, toys, and games from packed boxes, dividing them up as farewell gifts to her friends. When her moving van hauled her belongings to her new home, Salami hauled her friends along in her notebook.

Salami’s love poured out to friends who remained close throughout many years. She lost track of those who never responded to her letters. But all the others grew old together with her through college, marriage, child raising, and retirement. Salami’s notebook became the symbol for no regrets throughout her lifetime.

Broken relationships create more regrets than stupidity. Losing track of someone, or disappointing someone carries a heavy burden of, “What ifs?” One’s unspoken “sorry” can never be reclaimed after the moment’s gone.

Let’s live generously, and love abundantly enough so that our lives have no regrets. Form relationships with others during your and their living years.

Take Home Nugget

King David was heartbroken for never having repaired the relationship with his son, Absalom. He learned too late, that death slams the door shut.

I pray that your life has no regrets.

The risk of making up after disputes cannot match the heartache of never trying.

Dedicated to June Rose Nicholson who loved many others abundantly throughout her
living years.

J.D. Griffith