



Disc 14 ~ Episode 2 A New Dawn in Sicily ~ Betrayal

Y Video Summary

Part two of the Sicily story sees things turn rapidly for the worse for Chad. The very people he thought were his friends end up putting a hit out on his life. Chad barely escapes and is left evaluating the betrayal and his whole Mafia experience. Chad interacts with Lance and wonders why he ever went to Sicily. His conclusions are very revealing concerning motives and relationships.

Y Icebreaker Sand and Stone

Two friends were walking through the desert. During some point of the journey they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, wrote in the sand: "TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SLAPPED ME IN THE FACE."

They kept on walking until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started drowning, but the friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning, he wrote on a stone: "TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SAVED MY LIFE."

The friend who had slapped and saved his best friend asked him, "After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write on a stone, why?" The other friend replied: "When someone hurts us we should write it down in sand where winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But, when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it."

Y Primary Lesson

This second Sicily episode drives home the dangers of peer pressure. It pulls back the mask that Satan tries to put over people's eyes when it comes to those who are only supportive if you conform to their manipulation and control.

Chad's wake-up call about Don Vito will also sound the alarm for others as they see themselves caught in the same trap with other personal relationships. In the end Chad realizes that there is only one family worth joining and pledging allegiance to and that is the family of God. It is ruled by a Don who is always fair, righteous and godly. His Name is Jesus Christ.

Y Facts, Figures & Illustrations

- Sicily lies at the heart of the Mediterranean and is its largest island. It is home to more than 5 million residents.
- In Sicily is Mount Etna, which is the largest active volcano in Europe.
- Standing at almost 11,000 feet, Mount Etna dominates the Sicilian skyline. It is the most active volcano in the world and has erupted 200 times including April of 2007.
- In past history, Sicily has had many conquerors including the Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans and other French dynasties, various Spanish dynasties, and the Italian Garibaldi dynasty.
- It is reported that roughly 80% of all firms and businesses in Sicily pay protection money to the Mafia, while the remaining 20% require police protection.

- The Mafia is reported to be Italy's biggest business with earnings twice that of Italy's huge car company Fiat.
- In the mid 1980s large-scale trials called the maxi trials were held in Italy against the Sicilian Mafia.
- Of the 474 people accused, 114 were acquitted and 2,665 years of jail time was shared out amongst the guilty.
- The trial had to be held in a bomb-proof bunker with bullet-proof glass used in court. The court was also protected by a helicopter, 3,000 soldiers and a tank.

Sources: www.funtrivia.com and www.highonadventure.com



Key Scriptures

(From NKJV, unless otherwise noted)

2 Peter 2:19 ~ *They promise freedom, but they themselves are slaves to sin and corruption. For you are a slave to whatever controls you. (NLT)*

Proverbs 29:25 ~ *The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe.*

Galatians 4:4-5 ~ *But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*

Galatians 4:6-7 ~ *And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.*



Complimentary Story

The Old Cook and the Young Apprentice

There is a story told about a young man in Germany who got his first job at a large kitchen facility. Because the man had not worked in many weeks and his first paycheck was still two weeks away, he found himself very hungry and very poor. Here in this kitchen he had food all around him but was not allowed to eat any of it himself. One night, just before leaving, the young man looked around to make sure nobody was watching. He was wearing a large coat and he reached over to a table full of uncooked prepared chickens, snatched one quickly and hid it under his coat. He hastily left the building and went home to a wonderful meal of chicken peri peri.

The following day he worked a full long day at his duties and was about to clock out when an old cook came up to him. The man said to the apprentice, "I would like tonight for you to work my overtime shift." The young apprentice was indignant. "I am not going to work extra hours just so that you can be paid," he said, "you work your own overtime."

"Well" said the old cook, "I saw you last night stealing that chicken. If you don't work my overtime then I will just have to go and tell the boss."

"No," said the apprentice hastily, "please don't tell the boss. I will work your overtime for you."

This began a nightmare situation for the young apprentice. Every night that old cook would come to him and make him work his overtime hours. Sometimes he would just whisper in the young apprentice's ear, "remember the chicken."

After doing this for a month, the young man was exhausted and now hated his job. With all the overtime hours he had worked for the old cook, he could have bought over 100 chickens but he got none of the money. One night, while lying awake thinking about the trap he was in, the young man came to his senses.

The next morning he went to work especially early. He knocked on the door of his boss and with his heart pounding went in to see his boss.

"What is your problem?" his boss asked.

"Well sir," the young man stammered, "you see a month ago when I started I had no money and no food, so I stole a chicken. I want to pay the business back for that chicken and I want to apologize for doing something so wicked. Here is the money."

The boss leaned back in his chair. "I can see you have learned a lesson young man," he said. "Keep your money and don't ever steal again."

That evening, just when it was time to go home, here came the old cook again to the young apprentice. "Do my overtime," he said, "and remember the chicken."

"No I will not do your overtime ever again," said the young man.

"Remember the chicken," said the old cook, "I will just have to go and tell the boss."

"Go ahead and tell him," the young man said, "I already told him."

From that day forward the old cook was never again able to blackmail the young apprentice.



Discussion Questions

1. Discuss a time when you have felt like someone was blackmailing you to do something or to not tell about something.
2. In the story of the old cook and the apprentice, discuss what you think was the key to help the young man start to get free from the control of the old cook. How does that relate to your situations in getting free when it comes to God as your boss or other authorities in your life?
3. Discuss the feelings of Chad towards the Mafia at the end of the video. How do those feelings relate to your interactions with control freaks in your life?
4. Pray for each other to be free of all manipulation, control and blackmail.

