

FABLE OF THE PORCUPINE

It was the coldest winter ever - many animals died because of the cold. The porcupines, realizing the situation, decided to group together. This way they covered and protected themselves; but the quills of each one wounded their closest companions even though they gave off heat to each other.

After a while they decided to distance themselves one from the other and they began to die, alone and frozen. So they had to make a choice: either accept the quills of their companions or disappear from the Earth.

Wisely, they decided to go back to being together. This way they learned to live with the little wounds that were caused by the close relationship with their companion, but the most important part of it, was the heat that came from the others. This way they were able to survive.

Moral of the story:

The best relationship is not the one that brings together perfect people, but the best is when each individual learns to live with the imperfections of others and can admire the other person's good qualities

Real friends are those who, when you've made a fool of yourself, don't feel you have done a permanent job. *Bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Charity never fails. 1 Corinthians 13:7-8*

It is good to remember that the teakettle, although up to its neck in hot water, continues to sing. Rejoice evermore. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16, 18 (Discouragement seeds are so effective and they take root so quickly, but they don't seem to thrive in the heart of a grateful person. Don't let the seeds of discouragement take root in your soul).

When confronted with a Goliath-sized problem, which way do you respond: "He's too big to hit," or like David, "He's too big to miss"? *The Lord delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. 1 Samuel 17:37*