

Little Kingdoms

Once upon a time in a far away land, there was a great kingdom. The kingdom had struggled through some difficult times but happiness had returned to the land. Everyone lived together and all worked with the same sense of purpose.

One day, one of the families that lived in the kingdom decided that they could better serve the kingdom if they had their own castle. This family had already done great things for the kingdom and land was plentiful in the kingdom, so the family was granted their castle. Good works continued and the kingdom flourished.

Before long there was another family in the kingdom noticed that land was plentiful. They too had done great things for the kingdom and felt if only they had their own castle, they could do more great things that would bless the kingdom.

Castles began to spring up all over the kingdom. The more castles that were built, the more that seemed to be needed for there were a lot of good families doing good works for the kingdom. In addition, with each castle built, the kingdom grew distant because each castle became its own little kingdom. Eventually, there were moats and drawbridges built around the castles. Good works continued but maintaining the castles also became very important.

The land that once was plentiful was now becoming scarce. There were concerns throughout the kingdom whether the land should be used for sowing seed or building and maintaining castles.

There was hope in the kingdom that the land could support both. For this to happen, in the future, the land and the castles may have to be shared. The necessity of sharing the castles, concerned the families occupying the castles. They felt it might hinder their good works.

Deciding how to use the resources that we have been blessed with is often difficult. We all want to use them to do what is best for the kingdom but we don't always have the same perspective on what is best.

My prayer is that when the king returns; our good works continue to bless the entire kingdom, the seed has been sown and the harvest is

ripe, there will be no moats and drawbridges, and our castles, our families, and blessings are open to all.

Jeff