Oh Brother

Name a sibling or long-time friend with whom you’ve squabbled or even fought with multiple times over the years?

Read Obadiah 1:2—18.

1. What was the most significant thing between Jacob and Esau?

1. They were brothers.
2. Jacob cheated and lied to steal the birthright from Esau.
3. They were so different even though they were twins.
4. God loved Jacob but hated Esau.
5. They were children of God’s promise.
6. They reconciled when Jacob returned with his family.
7. Their descendants continued to fight against each other.
8. Other.

2. When Obadiah’s message came to Edom, the people felt confident of their current position. What makes you confident in your current position?

1. The talent you have.
2. You’re sitting pretty good right now.
3. You’ve been given decent opportunities compared to most people.
4. You’re not confident right now.
5. You’ve been down, but you fought your way out of it.
6. God has promised to bless you.
7. The plans you have in place give reason for confidence.
8. Other.

3. What could make you feel threatened right now?

1. Losing family.
2. Losing friends.
3. Losing financial security.
4. Losing your physical abilities.
5. Losing your connection with God.
6. Nothing.
7. Lack of security due to war, terrorism, gangs, police, or riots.
8. Upheaval from natural disasters.
9. Other.

(over)

4. When have you done nothing (when you could have done something)?

1. Passing a homeless person.
2. Being a spectator at church.
3. Opportunity to donate to a worthy cause.
4. Actively listen to someone who wanted to talk.
5. Passing the offering plate at church.
6. Observed a fight.
7. An opportunity to pray.
8. Listen to someone gossip.
9. Other.

5. When are you likely to silently gloat?

1. When it becomes obvious that you were right.
2. When a person you don’t like experiences pain.
3. When someone leaves another church to join yours.
4. When someone else stands up for you.
5. When you have more than others around you.
6. Whenever you win.
7. Whenever someone besides you loses.
8. Other.

6. The godless nations that oppressed Israel will experience a similar oppression (vs. 15). What are examples of oppression you have suffered from others?

7. Why doesn’t God prevent more oppression rather than letting it happen and then giving people a taste of their own medicine?

8. God promises that at the end, his people win. What assurance do you have that it will happen that way? How does that affect you now?