

Broken, but More Useful!

John 12:20-28

This is a Pivotal Story

- Through much of Jesus' ministry, He would often say, "My time has not yet come."
- On this particular occasion Jesus says, "My time has come."
- Not only had it come, but He was ready to give a lesson with it.
- The lesson is that brokenness is a process we go through, and maturity is what often originates from it.

Look At This Story

- Can you feel the importance of this moment in Jesus' life?
- Jesus Christ is on the verge of death.
- He is about to face false trials, lies, deceits....
- He was facing a torturous, bloody execution (not the kind where they just put you on a table, and you go to sleep, infused with a drug).
- And so Jesus takes a moment before all of this began and teaches a lesson on life.

His Lesson

- Life is going to be filled with times of brokenness and turmoil.
- There will be events in our life that will challenge our fundamental core (what are you made of).
- Jesus says “*listen carefully*”(John 12:24 the Msg)
“*Don’t waste what I’m about to say!*”

John 12:24-25(NIV)

“Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves his life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.”

What is Jesus Saying?

- (Ex.) There is no comparison to be made between a kernel of corn and a diamond, but it depends on what you do with the corn.
- If you put both of them away for a hundred years, the diamond will be valued in hundreds of thousands of dollars; and the kernel of corn will have no money value.
- But if you bury the kernel of corn in some moist earth and year after year, for centuries, you let it go on reproducing and reproducing; in time it will produce a storehouse that a whole city's property could not contain (its production would make the money value of a diamond seem like an Oreo Cookie in comparison).
- However, to save the one kernel would have been to lose all that it was capable of producing.

God Uses Broken Things!

- It takes broken soil to produce crops.
- It takes broken clouds to produce rain.
- Broken grain to give bread and broken bread to give strength.
- It was a broken perfume box that gave off fragrance one day in the life of Jesus (the Alabaster Box, Matthew 26:7)
- It took a broken, sacrificial Savior to save the world (giving up His body and blood is what the Lord's Supper is all about).

God Uses Broken Things!

- It was a broken Peter, who wept bitterly because of his betrayal, who returns to be a great, powerful, and effective preacher for the Lord (preaching a sermon that caused 3,000 people to become Christians the same day).
- Paul the apostle, was broken by a physical condition to spiritually grow (2Corinthians 12:7-10). (“***My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.***”)
- God used Hosea and his broken marriage to inform his people of sin in their lives. (Hosea chapter 1)

How we deal with our brokenness is what we allow God to make of us.

When we say, “I’m sorry,” and admit our guilt with a contrite spirit.

When we swallow our pride.

When we admit our dependence on God and not ourselves.

When we seek God for guidance in every aspect of life.

Some Of Us Endure the Pain of Life on a Daily Basis

- A broken marriage
- A broken home
- Death and Separation
- Sickness and Pain
- Your children have rejected your God
- Lost Jobs, and Lost Joy
- Mountains that seem too difficult to climb

Psalms 34:18-19

NIV, The Msg.

“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted (If your heart is broken, you’ll find God right there), and saves those who are crushed in spirit (if you are kicked in the gut, he’ll help you catch your breath).”

Psalms 34:18-19

NIV, The Msg

*“The righteous person may have many troubles
(Disciples so often get into trouble); but
the Lord delivers him from them all (still, God is
there every time).”*

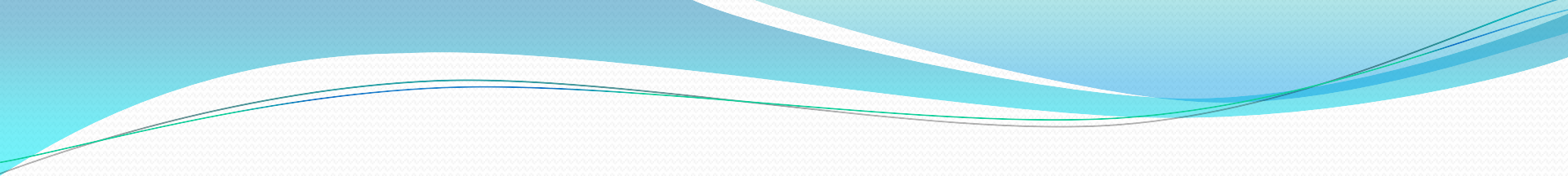
John 12:28-30

Listen to Jesus!

Father, glorify your name!

Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again. The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine.”



*Aren't you glad, God
does some things
personally for your
benefit to reveal
Himself to You!*

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins Acts 17:30

Confess Christ Acts 8:37

Be Baptized Acts 8:38