

FRIEND OF SINNERS – Part 2

Jesus Loves the Broken

“The biggest disease today is the feeling of being unwanted, uncared for, deserted by everybody. The greatest evil is the lack of love and charity, the terrible indifference of one neighbor who lives at the roadside assaulted by exploitation, corruption, poverty and disease.” - Malcom Muggeridge

- Jesus announced that one of the _____ was to fix the broken.

Luke 4:18 “The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to *the* poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to *the* captives
And recovery of sight to *the* blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

- Jesus doesn't help those who help themselves, He helps those that _____!

PEOPLE CAN GET BROKEN

“A single human being is the beautiful, the most valuable, and potentially the most powerful thing God ever created.” Gordon Macdonald

John 5:1-8 After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ² Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep *Gate* a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. ³ In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, ⁴ waiting for the moving of the water. ⁴ For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. ⁵ Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been *in that condition* a long time, He said to him, “Do you want to be made well?”

⁷ The sick man answered Him, “Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me.”

⁸ Jesus said to him, “Rise, take up your bed and walk.”

Proverbs 18:14 The spirit of a man will sustain him in sickness,
But who can bear a broken spirit?

1. People can get broken by _____.

John 5:5 Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years.

Infirmity = debilitating illness

2. People can get broken by _____.

John 5:3 In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water.

Bethesda means “house of mercy”

3. People can get broken by _____.

John 5:5-6 Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been *in that condition* a long time...

2 Corinthians 1:8 For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, **of** our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we **despaired even of life**.

2 Corinthians 11:27-28 in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.²⁸ And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.

Psalms 42:3 My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, “Where is your God?”

JESUS LOVES BROKEN PEOPLE

1. He was able to really _____ people.

John 5:6 When Jesus saw him lying there...

2. He was always _____.

John 5:6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been *in that condition* a long time, He said to him, “Do you want to be made well?”

Roger Frederikson, commentator: So often people succumb to their illness, ‘bedding down’ with their alcoholism or heart trouble or partial paralysis or whatever. They become psychological or spiritual invalids, retreating within themselves, avoiding responsibilities, becoming more and more self-centered as they demand sympathy from others. So every now and then in dealing with this kind of defeated person in the office or at a hospital bed or at a luncheon appointment I have asked that question, “Do you want to be made well?”

John 5:14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.”

- Loving the broken means preaching the UNBROKEN GOSPEL.

“If I weep for the body from which the soul is departed, should I not weep for soul from which God has departed?” St. Augustine

3. He wasn't surprised by _____.

John 5:9 And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath.

John 5:9-14 So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed.” ¹¹ But he answered them, “The man who healed me, that man said to me, ‘Take up your bed, and walk.’” ¹² They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk’?” ¹³ Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place.¹⁴ Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.”

- Loving the broken has consequences – like being _____.

Final Thought: There is a brokenness God loves and even _____.

Psalm 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

