

Talk #1 Our brokenness allows God to be strong.

Brokenness, in God's eyes, is being so crushed by the sin and darkness of the world that we recognize there is no place to turn but to God. David's life and brokenness is a perfect example. In 2 Samuel 12 and Psalm 51 we see it (read if you want).

2 Corinthians 12:10 (ESV):

“I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.”

God tells us that His grace is sufficient for us – that He is all we need. When we are broken and at the end of our rope, God comes along beside us and gives us all the strength we will ever need. Finding beauty in brokenness comes from a complete trust in who God is and how He works in our lives. It is trusting in Him to repair and restore us. We find beauty in brokenness when we choose to sit with Him and pour out all our pain and struggles, knowing He is listening to each word.

No matter how bad the situation that caused our broken heart, we can honestly take it to God knowing He can handle it with love, grace and gentleness. One way God heals a broken heart is with forgiveness. God grants us the power to forgive those who caused our brokenness. It could happen quickly or take a while, but it can happen!

The apostle Paul wrote, “We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed” 2 Corinthians 4:8–9

Speakers should talk about situations in their life when he/she has been weak, but in that weakness God’s strength has shown through. They should also talk about that in every situation where we are unable – God is able.

Discussion questions:

- 1) What do you think it means to take pleasure in infirmities, reproaches, necessities and persecutions?
- 2) Can you think of a time when you were weak, but with God’s help you were strengthened and able to accomplish what was necessary?
- 3) How can you live out this verse in your life going forward?

Prayer focus: Ask God to help fully rely on Him, and to rejoice when you can’t because He can.