



The Prayer of the Broken

Focus Brokenness (absolute surrender to God’s will and His way) brings us to a place of authenticity—of genuine spirituality.

Open What is a “turning point” time in your life that makes you smile or cry when you think about it?

Read Brokenness is not being wounded or shattered. True brokenness is the key to wholeness. It involves being ripped free of our own prideful independence from God. Brokenness is the key to victory, not defeat. Until we pass through the experience of brokenness before God, there are entire levels of wholeness that are inaccessible to us.

The opposite of brokenness is not wholeness, but independence from the will of God. The result of brokenness is absolute surrender to the will and the Word of God. The “prayer of the broken” is found in Matthew 6:10 (KJV): *“Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.”*

- Talk**
1. What thoughts or ideas first come to mind when you hear the word “brokenness”?
 2. Brokenness is not a tired resignation or a beaten-down surrender to God. Why not? What is true brokenness?
 3. Besides David and Paul, what biblical figures come to your mind who were brought to a place of brokenness before God?

4. In what way does brokenness involve risk?

Is there truly any real risk in totally surrendering to God, whose nature is absolute goodness? Then why do we still struggle to surrender?

5. Why is brokenness the key to victory?

Live

1. A few signs of an unbroken heart are unforgiveness, pride, anger, a critical spirit, self-righteousness and self-importance. Do you see any of these things in your life? How do you feel about their existence in light of today's discussion?
2. John Wesley said, "Blessed are those who know their need of God." Take a few minutes to reflect and truly ask yourself, "Do I believe *and* behave as one who is dependent on God?" Write down the thoughts and/or impressions that come to your mind.

Pray

In your own way, express your dependence upon God. Praise Him for His character (faithfulness, goodness, love, etc.). If you are willing to embrace brokenness, ask Him to move you to a place of brokenness in your life. Pray through Psalm 51, making David's prayer your own.