

DISCOVER AND EMBRACE

God's created design

AND MISSION FOR YOUR LIFE!



CRYING OUT FROM A HEART OF BROKENNESS

NANCY DEMOSS WOLGEMUTH, TRUE WOMAN '16

We first need to let God do a work of humility and brokenness in our own hearts so we can pray effectively for others.

God creates circumstances in our lives to show us how much we need Him. God wants to see hearts that are saying, “Yes, Lord,” to whatever He says.

Acknowledgment of need makes us eligible to receive the grace of God.

Scriptures that speak of the need for brokenness:

- Isaiah 57:15
- Psalm 34:18
- Psalm 51:16
- Isaiah 66:2

God revives the heart that is broken, humble, and contrite.

God’s Word teaches us that the way up is down. The way to wholeness is through brokenness. We cannot meet God in revival until we first meet Him in brokenness.

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom (James 4:8–9).

Brokenness is not:

- Being sad, gloomy, or introspective.
- Having false humility.
- Crying lots of tears.
- Being deeply hurt.
- A feeling.

Brokenness is:

- A choice.
- An ongoing, continual lifestyle.
- Agreeing with God about the true condition of my heart and life.
- Unconditional, absolute surrender to Jesus as Lord.
- The shattering of my self-will so that the life and spirit of Jesus may be released through me.
- My responses of humility and obedience to the conviction of God’s Spirit and His Word.

- Brokenness goes in two directions—vertical toward God and horizontal toward others. It's living with the roof off and walls down.

Scriptural examples of people who were broken and humble (set in contrast to those who were not broken):

- Luke 18:9-14: Two churchgoers
- Luke 15:11-31: Two brothers
- Luke 7:36-50: Two people at a dinner

The best place we can possibly be is when we're in need and have no solutions.

The longer you've been in this Christian life thing, the higher up you go in terms of position and responsibility and influence, the greater the temptation to become a twenty-first-century modern-day Pharisee.

- Why do you need to submit to brokenness? Because of its fruit.
- Brokenness brings blessedness.
- It causes God to draw near to us.
- It releases new life.
- It gives us an increased capacity for love and worship.
- It brings increased fruitfulness.

Where to start?

- See God as He is.
- Cry out to the Lord and say, "Be merciful to me, a sinner."
- Acknowledge and verbalize your need for God.
- Acknowledge and verbalize your need to others.