

# Series : Broken

Text: Luke 24:13-35

Date: 2/5/2017

Preacher: Pastor Randy Stroming

Sermon: Restoring Hope to Broken Dreams

Today is the beginning of a new service series “Broken.” We go around with smiles on our faces, trying to act like everything is OK. But in reality, most of us have broken dreams, broken hearts, and broken lives.

Today we’re talking about “Restoring Hope to Broken Dreams.” Experiencing broken dreams is not a rare experience—it’s all too commonplace.

Sooner or later, you will experience some broken dreams along the path of life. Some of you may be struggling with feelings like this right now.

Luke Chapter 24 takes place after the Resurrection. Jesus had tried, over and over, to explain to his followers what was going to happen, but it’s like they just didn’t get it. Luke 24:13-17 (NLT)

That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles out of Jerusalem. As they walked along they were talking about everything that had happened. Suddenly, Jesus himself came along and joined them and began walking beside them. But they didn't know who he was, because God kept them from recognizing him. They stopped short, sadness written across their faces.

"You seem to be in a deep discussion about something," he said. "What are you so concerned about?"

There are a couple of key phrases here: “so concerned” and “sadness written across their faces.” Imagine these two, trudging along the road, with heads down, shoulders stooped, and sadly putting one foot in front of the other on this slow, seven mile hike. Jesus showed up!- he desires our companionship Because we matter. The Risen Lord desires we walk with Him and one another. He desires that we grow as we look to Him and live life to the fullest in all things

When We are walking with a heart that is breaking, when we are walking in despair and confusion, isn’t this just the way Jesus works—this gentle probing. First he probes us in his Word; a Bible verse comes to our mind. He probes us with a stirring of the spirit. He probes us with a friend who makes a support comment to us. He probes us with events in our lives—somehow, someway, he probes gently into your heart. That’s what Jesus was doing with the disciples on the road to Emmaus. “What are you talking about?” He knows. But Gently he probes and enters into their lives. He does the same thing with you.

These two had no idea they were talking to the One who had been crucified and raised. The One who would turn their sorrow into joy.

Jesus desires to converse with us everyday? Like these two - we can tell Him whatever is on our hearts and minds. He wants to listen, and talk with us. What things Jesus asks us the disciples and us today?

20-24 the two proceed to give the facts of what happened to Jesus the last few days. Haven't you heard all of the news in Jerusalem? Haven't you heard about Jesus of Nazareth? Haven't you heard they put him on a cross to die!

There's little belief here. They're going through a tired rendition of what they heard. But there's no conviction. There's no passion. There's no fire in their hearts. They're just recording historical facts. There might be somebody here this morning that could recount the story of the resurrection like they did—with no joy, no passion—knowing all the facts, but that's it.

Luke 24:25 (NLT)

This is the way Jesus is sometimes with you too. Lovingly, he points the finger to you—"The mirror of his Word is held up before you so that you think, "What am I doing?" Is there anybody here who needs those kinds of words today, where gently walking beside you Jesus just needs to say, "Why are you being so foolish? Why are you being so slow in your understanding?" Trust and believe in me

It begins by being convicted of sin by the Law.

You see, this Jesus—and this is the part I don't always like; sometimes I just want Jesus to come by my side and give me advice, to tell me what to do to fix it.

But instead, what he does here, what he says here, "Did not the Christ have to suffer and die?" Instead of giving me advice on how to solve the problem, Jesus says I am here! Christ is in the middle of the crisis and brokenness. Sometimes tragedy happens in our life. Crisis happens and we wonder, "God where are you? Come on, God, show me where you are in all this. Why don't you fix this thing?" And the Cross tells us that rather than "fix it," he is smack dab in it. Right in the middle. Right in the middle when we wonder where he is, there is Jesus working all things together for good to those who love the Lord. Growing our faith and trust in Him in all things

See Jesus lead them to through scripture ...as he shares with them from Moses through the prophets.

Our focus needs to be on Jesus. The Word of God is faithful. It engages and probes and convicts,

Isaiah 40:31 But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

28 "As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther." He acted as if he were going farther to get them to invite him in? But he does say in the book of Revelation, "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me." Jesus Christ found you. You didn't find him.

You are saved by grace alone. , Jesus is waiting. He's knocking at the door asking if you'll invite him in so you can spend some fellowship time together.

31-32 In the breaking of the bread in which participate here and in the teaching of the Word, Jesus makes himself visible. He wanted to show them Risen Jesus is for Real.

33-35 It's such a human, hands-on practicality of Jesus. He wants them to learn what resurrection is all about. Something you can touch. Something that's real. It's not just in the mind.

He wants us to believe with all our heart that the resurrected Christ is real and alive. I believe with all my heart that the resurrected Christ journeys with me each day, and as I read his Word, he's causing my heart to burn within me. Those two men went from a breaking heart to a heart full of JOY. The same JOY is for you in the relationship of Christ – Your Lord and Your God Your Savior and Shepherd. God will reach out to you in your brokenness restore you in His blood and Righteousness.

Amen