

# MENDING **the** FRACTURES

**The Week of July 31, 2022**  
**Mending the Eternal Break**  
**Peace with God**  
**Conversation Guide**

## **This Week's Take-Aways**

- About Humanity: (John 3:16) I believe all people are fallen in sin, but loved by God who has taken the initiative to save humanity from its sinfulness.
- About Salvation: (Ephesians 2:1-10) Salvation is an act of God's grace, not of our works. God offers redemption of anyone who accepts Jesus as Lord and Savior. They become new persons in Christ, have their sins forgiven by God, are set apart to live for God's purposes and anticipate eternity in heaven with God.

## Key Scriptures

### Romans 10:1-5,9-13

*Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God concerning them is for their salvation. I can testify about them that they have zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. Since they are ignorant of the righteousness of God and attempted to establish their own righteousness, they have not submitted to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes, since Moses writes about the righteousness that is from the law: The one who does these things will live by them.*

*If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation. For the Scripture says, Everyone who believes on him will not be put to shame, since there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, because the same Lord of all richly blesses all who call on him. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

- According to this passage, what steps need to be taken in order to be saved?
- Have you taken these steps to be reconciled with God through Jesus?

### Romans 10:14-17

*How, then, can they call on him they have not believed in? And how can they believe without hearing about him? And how can they hear without a preacher? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news. But not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, Lord, who has believed our message? So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the message about Christ.*

- What is our role in reconciliation between God and other people?
- How can we apply what we've learned in the last few weeks to help us share the Good News with our family? Friends? Strangers?
- Are people that we are in conflict with likely to listen to us about Jesus?
- Why is it important to maintain healthy relationships? What is the potential Kingdom impact of our personal relationships?

## What Does It Mean To Be A Christian?

Most people live their entire lives without ever knowing “WHY.” They exist year after year with no idea of why they live or God’s purpose for their lives. The most basic question a person can ask is, “What is the meaning of my life?”

Everyone wants to be happy. People try many ways:

... Some look for happiness by acquiring possessions.

... Some look for happiness by experiencing pleasure.

... Some look for happiness by gaining prestige & power.

But real happiness comes from understanding my Purpose in Life

## Why Am I Here?

### 1. GOD MADE ME TO LOVE ME!

Jeremiah 31:3

*“I have loved you with an everlasting love!”*

Ephesian 1:4-5 (Good New Bible)

*Even before the world was made, God had already chosen us to be His through our union with Christ ... because of His love, God had already decided that through Jesus Christ He would make us His children - this was God’s pleasure and purpose.*

### 2. WE WERE CREATED TO ENJOY A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND TO MANAGE ALL OF THE REST OF GOD’S CREATION! THIS MAKES US SPECIAL!

Genesis 1:27-28 (Living Bible)

*So God created human beings, making them in His image. He blessed them, and said “...live all over the earth and bring it under control. I am putting you in charge.”*

1 Timothy 6:17b (NIV)

*God richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.*

John 10:10b

*“I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness!”*

### 3. WHEN WE KNOW AND LOVE GOD, AND LIVE IN HARMONY WITH HIS PURPOSE FOR OUR LIVES, IT PRODUCES TREMENDOUS BENEFITS IN OUR LIVES.

*Clear Conscience Rom. 8:1, Life & Peace Rom. 8:6, Help with Weakness Rom. 8:26, Purpose Rom. 8:28, Confidence Rom. 8:31, Security Rom. 8:39, Power & Strength Phil. 4:13, Fulfillment Phil. 4:19, Freedom John 8:32,36*

This is the kind of lifestyle God intends for us to live. Why then aren’t most people really happy?

## What's The Problem?

Man has a natural desire to his/her own thing and to ignore God's principles for living.

- "Look out for #1. Do your own thing."
- "If it feels good, do it - regardless of what God says about it."
- "It's my life and I'll do what I please!"

### The Bible calls this attitude sin

Isaiah 53:6

*All of us, like sheep, have gone astray, and each of us has turned to his own way.*

1 John 1:8

*If we say that we never sin, we are only fooling ourselves, and refuse to accept the truth.*

Sin breaks our close relationship with God. It causes us to fear God and try to live our lives outside of His will.

Isaiah 59:2 (Living Bible)

*The trouble is that your sins have cut you off from God.*

Romans 3:23

*All have sinned and fall short of God's glorious ideal.*

When our relationship to God is not right, it causes PROBLEMS in every area of our lives -marriage, career, relationships, finances, etc.

**When people have problems, they often try many different ways of coping before turning to god.**

Proverbs 16:25

*There are ways that SEEM right to man, but they only end in death.*

Even when we know that our deepest need is God, we often try wrong ways of getting to know Him:

- "My mother was a Christian so ..."
- "It doesn't matter what you believe, just be sincere."
- "I'll give up all my bad habits."
- "I'll work real hard and earn it."
- "I'll be religious and go to church."

## What's The Solution?

John 14:6 (emphasis added)

*Jesus Christ told him, "I AM THE WAY, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except THROUGH ME."*

God Himself came to earth as a human being to bring us back to Himself. If any other way would have worked, Jesus Christ would not have had to come. The Way is a Person!

## Jesus Has Already Taken Care Of Your Sin Problem

Romans 6:23

*The wages of sin is death, BUT the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

God did this for us because He loves us and wants us to know Him.

Romans 5:8

*God demonstrated His love for us in that while we were still separated from God by sin, Christ died for us.*

1 Timothy 2:5-6a (Living Bible)

*God is on one side and all people are on the other side, and Christ Jesus is between them to bring them together, by giving His life for all mankind.*

God has already done His part to restore our relationship to Him. He took the initiative. Now He waits for each of us to individually accept what He has done for us.

## What Does God Want Me To Do?

1. Admit that God has not been first place in your life and ask Him to forgive your sins.

1 John 1:9

*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from every wrong.*

2. Believe that Jesus died to pay for your sins and that he rose again, and is alive today.

Romans 10:0

*If you confess that Jesus is your Lord, and you believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*

Acts 4:12

*Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name (Jesus) by which we must be saved.*

3. Accept God's free gift of salvation. Don't try to earn it.

Ephesians 2:8-9

*For it is by grace you are saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is a gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.*

Our relationship to God is not restored by anything we do, but by what Jesus already did for us!

4. Invite Jesus Christ to come into your life and be the director (“lord”) of your life.

John 1:12

*To all who receive Him, He gives the right to become children of God. All we need to do is to trust Him to save us. All those who believe this are reborn!*

Revelation 3:20

*“Listen! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in...”*

## **A Simple Prayer Of Commitment To God**

“Dear Lord, I know I am a sinner and I cannot save myself. Thank you for loving me and for dying on the cross for my sins. Come into my heart, Lord Jesus, and forgive my sins and save my soul. I give you my life. Make me the kind of person you want me to be. Take control of the throne of my life. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.”

Romans 10:13

*Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.*