

Brokenness

Reference: **Genesis 3:1-19**

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God has a design for our lives, but we depart from His design and end up in brokenness.

Last week we saw how God has left us with a mission make disciples of all nations. We are to tell them the good news that God made a way for them to live the way they were designed to live. We are learning a relational, conversational way to bring them the help they need through the gospel of Jesus.

This week we are going to look at a place we all know all too well—a place we're calling brokenness.

In the United States today:

- » Forty percent of children live in single-parent homes.
- » One half of 1 million children have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect and placed in foster care.
- » An estimated 20 million people are ensnared in some kind of addiction.
- » Police report over 3,000 violent crimes a day.

I. We choose to depart from God's design.

- » Adam and Eve thought they knew better than God (**Genesis 3:1-7**).
- » The Bible word for departing from God's design and going our own way is sin.
- » We all do it (**Isaiah 53:6, Romans 3:23**).

II. When we depart from God's design, it always leads to brokenness.

- » We know when our communion with God is broken. It feels like fear, shame, guilt, loneliness... (**Genesis 3:8-10**).
- » We try to hide from God (**Genesis 3:8**).

III. Brokenness disrupts God's design. It:

- » Disrupts our spiritual life (**Genesis 3:14-15**).
- » Disrupts our family life (**Genesis 3:16**).
- » Disrupts our married life (**Genesis 3:16**).
- » Disrupts our work life (**Genesis 3:17-19a**).
- » Disrupts our physical life (**Genesis 3:19b**).

IV. Brokenness helps us see our need for change.

- » We try to cover our own sin, but it doesn't work (**Genesis 3:7**).
- » We do what we can to fix our own brokenness (relationships, drugs, alcohol, strive for a "better me"), but it doesn't work.
- » Brokenness seems like a bad thing, but in many ways it's good because it's how God gets our attention.
- » God has made a way out of our brokenness: the gospel.

3 Circles:

- God has a design for every area of our lives.
- ~ God designed us to be in relationship with Him, but we have all departed from that design. The Bible calls this sin. We all sin and fall short of God's perfect design (**Romans 3:23**).

- This sin leaves us in brokenness.
 - We all want out of brokenness, so we try to fix it.
 - We look for ways to alleviate our pain. When we do that, we just get more and more broken.
- ~ When we feel broken on the inside and everything's all messed up, we know something needs to change. The Bible word for change is repent. Brokenness is what gets us ready to try God's solution, which is to repent and believe the gospel.

- The change we really need comes from Jesus.
 - God sent Jesus to live a perfect life, die the death we deserve, and be raised to life again, proving He is who He says He is and can do what He says He can do.
 - Jesus came to forgive our sins.
- ~ When we repent and believe in Him, He gives us His Spirit who helps us recover and pursue God's design.

Where do you see yourself in this diagram?

Will you choose to take God's way out of brokenness?

Will you choose to help others find their way out of brokenness?