

Broken Vessels is a grief support ministry for adults who have suffered loss through the death of an important person in their life—a spouse, a child, a parent, or another significant person. We should not think that Christians are not supposed to grieve, or that experiencing and expressing grief indicates a lack of faith.

Grief is a part of life that we will all experience. It hurts very deeply to lose someone we love through death. It is normal for us to experience grief as we seek to cope with a sense of loss that we feel at the death of a family member or any person for whom we care deeply.

Our Father in Heaven is no stranger to grief. He understands the pain of losing someone you love very much; therefore, we can trust Him to be loving and compassionate as we walk through these dark days.

*"He heals the brokenhearted."
Psalm 147:3a*

What is Grief?



Grief is a natural, expected reaction to loss.



Grief takes time—exactly how long depends on the circumstances. People need to work through the course of bereavement in their own time and their own speed. No one can tell how long grief will last. One cannot compare themselves to others in similar situations.



Grief hurts. The death of a loved one is life's most painful loss. Sadness, denial, guilt, physical discomfort, and sleeplessness are just some of the symptoms of grief. It is like an open wound which must be healed. At times, it seems as if the healing will never happen.



Grief is a beginning. It is in allowing the pain that healing takes place. When people release emotions and allow themselves to feel, experience and accept the pain of loss, healing begins.

*Rosemary Hillman
Patricia Owen*

Broken Vessels holds two seminars each year: spring and fall. These seminars will be conducted by Christian psychologists and counselors. They will offer a safe place to deal with subjects ranging from the physical aspects of what grief is, to adjustments, to choosing God's plan for returning to a life of usefulness.

*"Like a clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in My hand."
Jeremiah 18:6*

Spring 2024 Schedule

Wednesdays, April 3 - May 8
6:30-8:00 pm
Longview Heights Baptist Church
Building C, Room C-221

Please contact Jerebeth Mehler for more information: 901-216-2430



Purpose Statement

To provide, for each person who has suffered loss, an atmosphere of love and dignity, and present the issues of living and dying in a fallen world that would encourage them to choose God's provision of hope and love that flows from a trust of His goodness.

Goal of Broken Vessels

The goal of Broken Vessels Ministry is to provide, for those in grief, lectures and follow-up groups that would encourage each participant:

- To acknowledge and accept what the loss means to them—"I will... never be the same and neither will my world." The goal of grief is not to forget, but to remember the one lost.
- To acknowledge and accept the emotions that accompany the recognition of the loss and the changes in their world.
- To acknowledge and accept that suffering and loss are for today, but resurrection and restoration are for tomorrow.
- To acknowledge and accept that no loss or wound is so deep that we are ever justified to refuse to love and give to others again.

Grief Support

April 3

Jerebeth Mehler

April 10

Dr. Susan Jacob

April 17

Dr. Brent Stenberg

April 24

Dr. Chip Pillow

May 1

Alan Durham

May 8

Vicki Stephens



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But the vessel he was shaping from the clay became marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another vessel, shaping it as seemed best to him.

Jeremiah 18:4