

SERMON NOTES:

Series: The Big Letdown | Part 1: Betrayed, Backstabbed, and Bamboozled

Proverbs 17:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

Proverbs 17:17 (NLT)

¹⁷ A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need.

A friend loves at all times – a friend is always loyal.

Loyalty is a characteristic of love.

The litmus test of true friendship is not the absence of conflict, but the ongoing commitment to reconciliation and restoration *when* conflict occurs.

3 LIFE-GIVING AND HEALING TRUTHS:

- 1. Know that you are in the best of company. No one knows better what you are going through than Jesus himself.**

1 Corinthians 11:23a (NLT)

²³ For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed,

READ: Isaiah 53:3-9

John 6:66 (NLT)

⁶⁶ At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him.

Deuteronomy 31:6 (NIV)

⁶ “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”

- 2. God can and does want to bring healing, health, and wholeness to what is broken.**

Psalms 34:18 (NLT)

¹⁸ The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.

Psalms 147:3 (NLT) ³ He heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds.

Matthew 5:4 (NLT) ⁴ God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Revelation 21:4 (NLT)

⁴ “He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.”

3. Healing begins when forgiveness flows through us.

We must be the kind of friend we earnestly want others to be.

Mark 11:25 (NLT)

²⁵ But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.

Matthew 18:21-22 (NLT)

²¹ Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?”

²² “No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven!”

Ephesians 4:32 (NLT)

³² Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Colossians 3:13 (NLT)

¹³ Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

Proverbs 10:12 (NLT)

¹² Hatred stirs up quarrels, but love makes up for all offenses.

1 Peter 4:8 (NLT)

⁸ Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins.