

## Jesus Our Comforter

### **Matthew 5:3-4 (NIV)**

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.”

Jesus is inviting us into a blessed life, but the path is unexpected. If you want to be blessed:

- **Step One: Humility**, Choose humility over pride. God, I need you.
- **Step Two: Brokenness**, Choose brokenness over denial. God, I am guilty, and I am sorry for the pain and suffering I have caused.

Two confessions in the prodigal son story:

- **Luke 15:21**, Brokenness
- **Luke 15:28-30**, Denial

Brokenness leads to forgiveness, healing, restoration, and new life.

There is a difference between being upset when we get caught and genuine brokenness.

### **1 Corinthians 7:6-13**

Compare Saul and David

**1 Samuel 13:7-14**

**2 Samuel 12:13**

**Psalms 32:1-6**

**Ezekiel 36:25-27, Galatians 5:1-6**

**Step One-** Healing, Grace

**Step Two-** Identity, Truth

**Step Three-** Character, Community

**Step Four-** Vision, Serve/experience

Some of you are playing with fire right now. You are rationalizing, blaming, minimizing, and/or making excuses to justify your sin. You are hiding it to protect it. You are telling yourself it is no big deal and certainly not hurting anyone. However, it is destroying your intimacy with God. It is jeopardizing your marriage, kids, career, and reputation. You have given away your integrity, compromised your spiritual authority. Jesus wants you to live strong and free, with integrity, purity, purpose, courage, and peace. You have to see the ugliness of sin in order to cry out to God for freedom.

How does Jesus respond to our brokenness?

- Matthew 9:36, He was moved with compassion...
- Woman caught in adultery, "Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more."
- Peter, "Feed my sheep"
- Matthew, "come follow me"

**Exodus 34:6-7a, 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, 1 John 1:9, James 5:16**

What if I do not feel broken over my sin? **1 John 3:7-10**

Why does brokenness produce a blessing in our lives? Prodigal- when the pain of remaining the same is greater than the pain to change, you will change. When our desire for God becomes stronger than our desire for this world, we will change.

**Philippians 3:1-11**

**Prayer for brokenness:** Father, today we confess we have sinned against you. We acknowledge that our sin has hurt you and those we love. God, we are sorry for the mess we have created and the pain we have caused. Holy Spirit, please produce in us a Godly sorrow. We chose today to repent. We turn away from our sin and choose life. Jesus, produce in us a greater desire for you than our desire for anything in this world. We can see now that our sin was destroying us, but you came to give us life. We trust you to lead us into healing, freedom, and blessing. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen