

BEAUTIFULLY BROKEN & SPIRITUALLY SQUEEZED

February 8 2026 | Pastor Jerry Lewis

Message Summary:

This powerful message takes us deep into Matthew 14:14-21, where Jesus feeds five thousand with just five loaves and two fish. But the real miracle isn't just in the multiplication—it's in the process. We discover that before Jesus could distribute the bread, He had to bless it and break it. This reveals a profound spiritual truth: God blesses us, but then He breaks us so we can be distributed for His purposes. The message challenges us to understand the difference between natural brokenness, which devastates, and spiritual brokenness, which elevates. When we come before God with a broken spirit and contrite heart—as described in Psalm 51:17—we position ourselves for His power to flow through us. The sermon confronts our modern tendency to hold onto control, asking why we find it so easy to give God our sin but struggle to surrender the rest of our lives. We're reminded that humility isn't thinking less of ourselves; it's thinking of ourselves less. The call is urgent: in these last days, we must move beyond religious ritual to genuine spiritual relationship, allowing God to squeeze out of us the fruit that was hidden within, producing love, joy, and peace even when life puts pressure on us.

Scripture References:

- Matthew 14:14-21 (Primary text: Feeding of the 5,000)
- Psalm 51:17 (The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit)
- Psalm 34:18 (The Lord is close to the brokenhearted)
- Isaiah 57:15 (God dwells with the contrite and lowly in spirit)
- 1 Peter 5:6 (Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God)
- Matthew 24:12 (The love of many shall wax cold)
- Romans 10:14-15 (How shall they hear without a preacher)
- Ephesians 4:11-12 (The five-fold ministry)
- 2 Timothy 2:4 (Endure hardness as a good soldier)
- James 4:7-8, 10 (Submit to God, resist the devil, humble yourselves)
- Matthew 21 (Jesus cleansing the temple)
- Psalm 127 (Except the Lord build the house)

Quotes:

“He can turn brokenness into a breakthrough. Natural brokenness is devastating, but spiritual brokenness is elevating.”

“Humility releases ability. Humility is a posture that releases favor and power.”

“When you walk under the blessing of God, little is much. But unless you humble or become broken, you can never be distributed.”

“Anybody can shout when everything's going great. But what about it when everything that could go wrong goes wrong? Life's putting a squeeze on you, but you're still producing fruit.”

“What good is it for me to say I'm a Christian but you never see my fruit? Humility squeezes out what was trapped or hidden within.”

5-Day Devotional: Beautifully Broken and Spiritually Squeezed

Day 1: The Power of Brokenness

Reading: Psalm 51:17; Psalm 34:18; Isaiah 57:15

Devotional: God dwells with those who have a broken and contrite spirit. Natural brokenness devastates, but spiritual brokenness elevates. When we come before God with humility, acknowledging we cannot thrive without Him, we position ourselves for His power to flow through us. The broken spirit means our ego and pride have been crushed, and we finally release our desire to control life on our own terms. God promises to revive, quicken, preserve, refresh, and restore those who humble themselves. Today, ask yourself: Am I trying to control my life, or have I truly surrendered to God's will? Brokenness is not weakness; it is the prerequisite for spiritual breakthrough. Come before Him broken, and watch Him make you beautifully whole.

Day 2: Humility Releases Ability

Reading: 1 Peter 5:6; James 4:7-10

Devotional: Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God, and He will exalt you in due time. The same hand you humble under is the hand that will lift you up. Humility is not just an attitude; it is a posture that releases favor and power. When you position yourself in humility, you become a candidate to receive God's anointing. This requires both condition (your mental and spiritual state) and position (your spiritual location). Being in the right place at the right time with the right mindset allows God to transform your brokenness into beauty. Pride will cost you everything, but humility opens doors that remain closed to the self-sufficient. Today, submit yourself completely to God, resist the devil, draw near to the Lord, and cleanse your hands from anything that separates you from His presence.

Day 3: From Blessing to Breaking to Distribution

Reading: Matthew 14:14-21

Devotional: Jesus took five loaves and two fish, blessed them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples for distribution. Notice the process: blessing, breaking, distribution. Many believers have been blessed by God with gifts, talents, and anointings, but they remain unused because they have never been fully broken. When you walk under God's blessing, little becomes much. But unless you humble yourself and become broken before Him, you cannot be distributed for His purposes. The multiplication happened after the breaking. Your brokenness is not the end of your story; it is the beginning of your greatest impact. God wants to take what seems insufficient in your life and multiply it beyond measure. Surrender your gifts to Him today, allow Him to break you, and watch Him distribute His power through you.

Day 4: Producing Fruit Under Pressure

Reading: Galatians 5:22-23; John 15:1-8

Devotional: Spiritual squeezing reveals what is truly inside us. Anyone can shout when everything is going well, but what comes out of you when life puts the squeeze on? An orange is not valuable until you extract what is inside. Neither are Christians. When troubles hit, when the enemy attacks, when circumstances press in from every side, that is when your true fruit is revealed. Will it be bitterness or the fruit of the Spirit? Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control should flow from a life connected to the Vine. The very fact that the enemy is telling you to quit is an indicator you are heading in the right direction. Let the pressure squeeze out the fruit God has cultivated within you. Remain in Him, and you will bear much fruit.

Day 5: The Urgency of the Hour

Reading: Matthew 24:12; Romans 10:14-15; 2 Timothy 2:3-4

Devotional: We are living in perilous, unpredictable times. Everything around us screams that Jesus is coming back. The question is: Are you ready? Have you allowed your love for God to grow cold, or are you pursuing Him with fresh hunger? Do not let church become ritualistic rather than relational. Take your walk with God to another level. Increase your prayer life, dive deeper into Scripture, and live surrendered to His will. Billy Graham, who reached billions, said in his nineties that he wished he had prayed more, studied more, and told the Lord more often how much he loved Him. If the greatest evangelist of the century felt that way, what about us? Today is the day to get serious about your relationship with God. Draw near to Him, and He will draw near to you.