

## BROKEN 6 – Break My Heart for What Breaks Yours

### What are the various things COMPETING for your heart?

1. GOD
2. FAMILY
3. CAREER
4. LEISURE, HOBBIES & ENTERTAINMENT
5. GIFTS, SKILLS & TALENTS

Some subtler candidates: AMBITION, STATUS, POWER, INFLUENCE, MONEY, ROMANCE.

Even more subtly: PERFECTIONISM, EASE, APPROVAL, WORRY, RELIGION.

The Biblical warning? Matt 6:19-21, 1 John 2:15-17

→ *Who's winning the battle for your heart? Which on that list are the leading contenders?*

→ *How do they potentially tip from balance to obsession & what are the dangers if they do?*

→ *What do we learn from Matt 6:19-21 & 1 John 2:15-17?*

**DANGER:** "Your LADDER is up against the WRONG WALL!"

Matt 22:36-38, 6:38, Psalm 37:4, Prov 4:23

- \* Whatever you set your heart on heavily INFLUENCES the course of life & whatever give heart to, has a HOLD over you
- \* If we give hearts to wrong things, we'll only find DISTRACTIONS, DEAD ENDS & DISAPPOINTMENTS.
- \* But if we give our hearts fully to God, we'll experience PURPOSE, PEACE & FULFILMENT.

→ *What qualifies as 'the wrong wall?'*

→ *Have you ever given any of the competing factors undue attention (a hold) & what consequences (damage?) did that cause?*

### WHY does God 'break your heart?'

1. He has a CALL on your life & needs to POINT you in the RIGHT DIRECTION.

→ *"God may well 'break your heart' to get your attention. Perhaps the further you drift, the greater the disconnect, the deeper the heart break?" Discuss!*

2. God-given PASSIONS boost INTIMACY & FAITH like nothing else.

→ *How does this work & what do those passions push us towards?*

3. To call us to a GREATER PURPOSE & keep us from SETTling for LESS.

→ *What qualifies as a 'lesser life?'*

→ *Why does it often take pain to get our attention?*

4. God has kingdom PRIORITIES that need to be EMPHASISED.

- a) RIGHTEOUSNESS, JUSTICE & MERCY (Mic 6:8)
- b) HOLINESS (1 Pet 1:15-16)
- c) Care for the POOR, WIDOWS & ORPHANS (James 1:27)
- d) Ministering to the NEEDS of others (Matt 10:8)
- e) REACHING the LOST (Matt 28:19-20)

→ *Which of those priorities are particularly on your radar? Is there any pain pointing in those directions?*

→ *Are there any others you'd want added to this list?*

### HOW does God 'break your heart?'

#### HOLY DISCONTENT

- \* Deep SPIRITUAL DISSATISFACTION God places in our hearts when something is not as it should be.
- \* A divine RESTLESSNESS / BURDEN that won't let you go, aches & tugs, drives you to your knees.
- \* A STIRRING in your soul that REFUSES to SETTLE for less than God's best, compels us to want to make a difference.
- \* Divinely-sparked, God-driven PASSION, compelling us to ACTION, pushing us towards His PURPOSES.

→ *What's your holy discontent? What are the symptoms & where is it pointing?*

### WHAT should we DO when God 'breaks your heart?'

1. INVITE God INTO your dreams (Ps 139:23-24).
2. INVEST in LEARNING
3. Press into PRAYER
4. Take ACTION
5. Find others who SHARE the BURDEN (Ecc 4:9)
6. Be prepared to play the LONG GAME (Hab 2:3)
7. LISTEN to the PAIN

→ *Explain what each of these entails. Which one is calling your name?*

→ *What resources could you access to help you 'invest in learning?' Does your group have any ideas for you? → Have you found people who share your burden? If not, where could you look?*

→ *"If it's from God, it won't go away." Why is this a clue that it's from God rather than you? How do you avoid Ishmaels while waiting for your Isaac?*

→ *Is it possible for the pain (#7) to drive you into frustration, resentment or moaning? How do you avoid those pitfalls?*