

THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

October 15

2023

Encouragement For The Brokenhearted

Webster defines heart break as “a state of extreme grief and depression.” Therefore, the term brokenhearted is used metaphorically to describe the intense emotional pain that one commonly feels after experiencing things such as the death of a loved one, the betrayal of a loved one, or the betrayal of a close friend. Now, like me, I venture to say that you too have probably at some point in your life experienced a broken heart. So you are more than likely very well aware of the fact that heart break hurts, and it can sometimes be extremely difficult to cope with and overcome.

However, heart break is nothing new, nor is it a respecter of persons, and again, many already have, are, or probably will at some point experience it. Even David, a man after God’s own heart (Acts 13:22) experienced heart break. In Psalm 69:20, David experiencing a troubling time in his life expressed, *“Reproach has broken my heart, And I am full of heaviness; I looked for someone to take pity, but there was none; And for comforters, but I found none.”*

Now, it is important to note that David, like many others during trying times in their lives searched for comfort,

peace, and encouragement. However, David informed that he looked for someone to take pity, but there was none. He looked for comforters, but found none. Therefore, David made his urgent plea for help in a time of trouble to God. In Psalm 69:1-3, David’s plea is, *“Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing; I have come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary with my crying; My throat is dry; My eyes fail while I wait for my God.”*

So, what did David do when he was in an ultimate state of despair? He turned to God, giving the people of God today an example to likewise follow. My friends, I suggest to you that the best way for a Christian to mend a broken heart is to draw near to God (James 4:8), knowing that He comforts us in our tribulations (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). Likewise, cast your burdens upon the Lord (Psalm 55:22), knowing that He cares for you (1 Peter 5:7), and that He will sustain you. Also, immerse yourself in God’s all inspired word (2 Timothy 3:16), knowing that His word is more valuable to you than thousands of coins of gold and silver (Psalm 119:72), knowing that His word is sweeter than honey (Psalm 119:103), and rejoice as one who finds great treasure (Psalm 119:162).

Once again it is not always easy to mend a broken heart, but the best way to move past the hurt of a broken heart is to turn to God. Therefore, know that even in one’s most broken state God does not despise a broken and contrite heart (Psalm 51:17), and always remember, the Lord can heal the brokenhearted (Psalm 147:3).

✍️ Brad Phillips

“Nobody Is Doing Anything!”

From time to time we hear this complaint expressed by members of a local congregation. The grievance may arise out of a genuine frustration at the lack of progress in the work of the church. Such failure may be the result of poor leadership, or it may be the consequence of internal strife, or it might just be the outcome of spiritual laziness. Whatever the case, these matters need to be addressed and corrected. If, in fact, ‘nobody is doing anything,’ that situation cannot be tolerated. We must find out why. We must fix the problems and get to work.

However, this objection (‘nobody is doing anything’) is often muttered by negative and cantankerous brethren who seem to think it is their exclusive job to point out the failings of all others in the church. Unfortunately, these constant fault-finders tend to exist in every congregation. We have a couple of questions for these continuous complainers:

1) How do you know that nothing is being done? Are you fully aware of everything that everyone else is doing? There are good-hearted souls that are working hard every day. They are not trying to make a ‘big splash’ to make a name for themselves. Rather, they are trying to accomplish God’s will and bring glory to His name. Do not assume that nothing is being done simply because it is not being publicly announced to you.

2) What are YOU doing? Think about that expression: ‘nobody is doing anything.’ Are you somebody? Is there something that you can do? If there is a job that needs doing, why don’t you step up and do it? The energy you waste in complaining could go a long way towards fixing the problem. Get to work!

Yes, real problems in the church need to be identified. And, yes, issues must be resolved. But, are you willing to be part of the solution? Think!

✍ Greg Gwin

God’s Plan of Salvation

Hear the word of God. (Romans 10:17)

Believe in Jesus Christ. (John 8:24)

Repent of your sins. (Acts 17:30)

Confess Jesus Christ. (Matthew 10:32)

Be baptized for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38)

Remain faithful unto death. (Revelation 2:10)

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth: to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” (Romans 1:16)

Belleville church of Christ

5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258

www.bellevillechurch.net

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	4:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Evangelist

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