

Blessed & Broken - Luke 24:13-35 Transcendent Series

Such an inspirational video -

A) Our Irish brother is right – God is personal – He is with you – whatever your situation is –

B) He knows what you have need of – so true.

C) We are going to see a good example of that principle and how God works in our lives

1) **As we Dive into Luke 24 today**

BIG IDEA: THE WAY THAT JESUS HANDLES BREAD – is how he often handles our LIVES!

Scene Luke 24 is resurrection day

A) Place Road to Emmaus – Jesus comes upon two followers who are downcast

B) They are leaving Jerusalem because they think He is still dead. – Sad

Opening verses set the scene. Luke 24:13-16

13 Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem. 14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened. 15 So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them. 16 But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him.

First thing to notice here is that one of the ways that Jesus works in our lives –

A) These disciples were going in the **wrong direction**.

B) Away from Jerusalem where the rest of the believers were.

C) So while they were going away from the place they should have been staying

1) **Jesus heads them off at the pass.**

D) I Thank God for the times that he cut me off at the pass.

1) Chased me down when I started going in the wrong direction even in my mind!

E) **Watching today** – You've been Going in the wrong direction –

1) Because Jesus loves you – not letting go of you easily

He is after you – why Watching today.

So Jesus comes along side of these guys -

17 And He said to them, "What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?" 18 Then the one **whose name was Cleopas** answered and said to Him, "Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?" 19 And He said to them, "What things?"

Now - Jesus knew – but he wanted to hear what was on their hearts – PRAYER

v.19 So they said to Him, "The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him. 21 **But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel.** Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened. 22 Yes, and certain women of our company, who arrived at the tomb early, astonished us. 23 When they did not find His body, they came saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said He was alive. 24 And certain of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but Him they did not see."

We were hoping that He would be our redeemer

A) Thinking from Romans – but when that didn't happen they were greatly disappointed.

B) **The same thing happens to us – we come to the Lord with our expectations –**

1) What we think he should do and how we think he should respond

C) **But when he doesn't respond the way we think he should – we get disappointed.**

However Jesus always has our **greatest need in mind**.

A) In their case he was going to redeem them from a greater enemy than Rome –

B) Satan/ Sin/ Death

25 Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?"

27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. {History lesson about the Messiah – How He was to suffer}

28 Then they drew near to the village where they were going, and He indicated that He would have gone farther. 29 But they **constrained Him**, saying, "Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent." And He went in to stay with them.

We see the desperation in these two men in the phrase –

V.29 they CONSTRAINED him saying ABIDE WITH US!

A)The word constrained carries the idea of almost grabbing him by force and begging **him NOT TO LEAVE!**

B)There was something so compelling about this man and what He was saying to them, they could not bear the thought of their evening being over!

C)Lesson for us here: Sometimes the Lord can seem hidden to us – **DRY TIME** –

1)Purpose is he wants us to dig a little deeper. –

D)Theme in the gospels – Jesus always responds in a positive way to the desperate in heart.

E)Sometimes we need to get to that place in our lives – sense of desperation where we realize – **Jesus all I have is you!**

F)I wonder if that is where the Lord has the world at this time. -

30 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 **Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him**; and He vanished from their sight.

This is interesting to me that on this walk Jesus tells them everything they would want to know about Himself

A)I mean He gives them an OT history Lesson as it related to Messiah – **they are still not getting it.**

B)But it wasn't until He **Took the bread**, and **Blessed it**, **Broke it**, and **Gave it to them** – that their eyes were opened. –

1)**It was then that they saw Him** –

32 And they said to one another, "Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?" 33 So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, 34 saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" 35 And they told about the things that had happened on the road, **and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread.**

V.35 again He was Known to them in the breaking of the bread!

A)This is what I want us to consider today!

Aa)What Jesus did that day with the Bread – **He Took it, He Blessed it, He Broke it, and He Gave it.**

B)Pattern: We have seen before!

1) **Luke 22 Upper room** – Passover – Jesus Took, Blessed, Broke, Gave.

C)**Luke 9 Feeding of the 5,000** – Jesus Took the Bread Gave it to be passed out

I believe this little Pattern and Sequence of Taking, Blessing, Breaking, and Giving

Is a Pattern that is **indicative** of the way God so often works in our lives

A)Or to put it another way: The way that Jesus handles Bread is often the way that **He handles a Life.**

Examples

A)**Consider Abraham:** God took Abraham out of his homeland – a place called Ur of the Chaldeans.

B)**The Taking** often corresponds with a calling... new nation

C)Often connected to a New thing – new season – new step of faith

D)God takes you somewhere – never been before!

God was taking Abraham out – calling Abraham out of HIS comfort zone. - at 75 yrs old

A)The Bible says that Abraham believed God – and took that step of faith

B)Launched out on an adventure with God

And God Blessed Abraham – Promise of a new nation – Blessed Abraham with Wealth and Abundance

A)But God also **Broke Abraham**- After several years – Still **No Son – No heir**

B)**No one to carry on the promise. 24yrs go by**

1) That is a long TRIAL -Long time of breaking –

C)We are like a MONTH into this – whole Pandemic thing –

1)Some of us are going crazy after a month – imagine 24 yrs

Finally God gave Abe a Son – Isaac – laughter

A)Joy to your heart - This whole new thing God was doing was going to happen through ISAAC

B)God taking, blessing, breaking, giving

C)See that Pattern in life after life of pp in the Bible

Joseph....Dreams/ favor/ breaking sold –

1)13 years in Slavery – prison - Given a place as the right hand to Pharaoh

D)Moses, Gideon, David – list goes on and on

E)Pattern Taking, blessing, breaking, giving!

In your life and my life – this is the way that God often works – this is a pattern we often see! -

A)Taking Stage, Blessing Stage, Breaking Stage, Giving stage

B)PROCESS IS REPEATED MANY TIMES OVER.

C)I Think most of us right now are in the Breaking stage – admit this SEASON is hard.

Think back prior to March when this whole thing broke out – what stage were you in?

A)Was God taking you into a new season –

B)Calling you to something?

C)Blessing stage – you were experiencing God blessing and working - FAVOR

D)But now we are in this time of breaking – remind you

1)HE WAS KNOWN TO THEM in the breaking....

Breaking stage that God is stripping away the layers of self! Self-centeredness – Pride – A)self Dependency - God purges from us all of our self-sufficiencies.

B)It is in the breaking stage that we are forced to lay down our pride and arrogance,

1)and realize that we are nothing without God..

C)It is in the breaking stage that we are tempted to run – to turn from the Lord

1)Don't do that! -

D)when tempted to do that - REMEMBER THIS: **God does not give away bread that he has not first broken –**

Note this: **God Breaks us to build us back up**

A)God is never seeking to make a new and improved version of you

B)The process is about – stripping you down – build you back up **to make you look more like Jesus**

You talk to anyone who has walked with God for a while –

A)Anyone who has gone through some stuff – who has some LIFE experience

B)This is what they will tell you – **“I learned far more about Jesus in the breaking stage than I ever did in the Blessing stage.”**

C)I grew far more in my walk with Jesus during this difficult times – ever did in the smooth sailing times

The reality is this – The Breaking stage is really the Blessing stage – THAT IS WHAT WE LEARN!

A) It is in the breaking stage that Jesus REALLY SHOWS UP!

B) It is the breaking stage that we learn that HIS grace is sufficient and his power is made perfect in weakness!

C) It is in the breaking stage that we learn it is really not about you.- IT IS ABOUT HIM

1) Led Paul to proclaim – one of his breaking stages – infirmity he prayed that Jesus would take away – No

D) Learn my grace is sufficient for you – my power is made perfect in your weakness

1) Paul responded – I am going to boast in my weakness – because I have discovered – **when I am weak HE IS STRONG**

I am not going to allow weakness and brokenness and inadequacy to hold me back anymore –

A) Those things in my life provide an opportunity a platform for Jesus to shine –

B) His power to be manifested in my weakness

C) So I am going to boast in my weakness – I am weak – He is strong!

E) Remember this as well: It is in the breaking that Jesus is revealed!–

1) IT IS IN THE BREAKING That we see Jesus even more clearly

One last thing: Jesus took the bread, blessed..., broke..., Gave..., - The whole time it was in His hands

A) Note this: The same thing holds true for your life – you are always in His hands –

B) His nail scarred hands – the hands that speak of his love for you

C) The Love that led him to leave heaven – come to this earth – become a man/ live in obscurity /poverty

1) And it was his Love for you and me that led him to go to the cross and die a death that we deserved -

See in reality Jesus was broken for me and you on the Cross –

A) so that we could experience the blessing of LIFE in HIM!

B) SO no matter what stage you find yourself in today but especially if you are in the Breaking stage

C) KNOW THIS: **JESUS HAS GOT YOU**

He loves you – HE IS for you – hasn't abandoned you – You are right where he wants you!

A) His NAIL SCARRED HANDS – are a testimony to that truth!

B) He knows exactly what is going on.

C) He is committed to completing the work – that He has begun.

D) It is about the Journey – Journey with Him!

Watching today don't know Christ – wandered away from Him

A) Remind you today – that He is after you – he has never given up on you – others might have but he hasn't.

B) He desires today – that you would stop running in the wrong direction – and turn to Him today

1) See His love for you – see that he has a plan for you.

C) Yes that plan will involve some breaking – but the breaking is part of the blessing!

1) The breaking is part of the discovery – You discover just how wonderful he is

D) You surrender your life to him today! – Pray!

1. Which of the four stages are you in right now? And why? Taking? Blessing? Breaking? Giving?
2. If you are in the breaking stage, in what way are you personally being broken?
3. What are you learning right now in the stage that you are in about yourself?
 - What are you learning about God?