

Long Story Short: Why My World is Broken

Reflect

1. Do you think this world is broken? Why or why not?
2. What in your view is the cause of the broken state of the world? Of your life?
3. Consider this equation: Confession = self-awareness. Confession leads to a deep self-awareness of who you are as a broken human being in the presence of a good and holy God. In what ways does this kind of self-awareness lead to Christian maturity and help you get right with God?

Read Your Bible

- Genesis 3:1-19
- Luke 5:1-11

Apply God's Word to Your Life

1. Notice the cycle of blame, shame and pain that happens in Adam and Eve's relationship when temptation gave way to disobedience. Eve blames the serpent, Adam blames Eve. Adam blames God for the woman God gave to him. They try to hide from God. Adam and Eve's relationship with each other and with God become stressed by the cycle. How have you experienced this cycle of brokenness in your life when you give in to temptation?
2. Why do you think we, as human beings, are so prone to give into temptation and disobey God?
3. Why do you think one of the results of our broken state is to want to run and hide from a God, and why is this not useful in our relationship with God?
4. Peter was driven to his knees when he perceived who Jesus was with a confession of self-awareness, "Go away from me Lord for I am a sinful man." What can we learn from this encounter for our lives?
5. Why do you need to be in touch with your habits, hang-ups and hostilities, in order to get right with God?
6. This was a watershed moment for Peter in his relationship with Jesus. His confession of his broken state led to these words of hope and promise from Jesus, "Do not be afraid, from now on you will follow me and fish for people." Listen to what God is saying to you as you fall on your knees before Him and lean into His words of hope and promise for you!

Christian maturity comes from getting right with God. That begins with a realization. I am a broken human being who lives in a broken state in a broken world prone to temptation and disobedience causing me to run or hide from God. I am caught in a dreadful cycle of shame and blame that causes pain for me in my relationship with others and foremost with God. To break this cycle, I need to fall on my knees before God confessing to Him who I am. That confession which needs to be a daily practice of followers of Jesus opens the door for God to speak His word of hope and promise to me.

Pray

Lord I fall on my knees before You confessing my brokenness. I am a sinner who gives into temptation that leads to disobedience that makes me want to run from Your presence. But because I know who I am and more importantly who You are O Lord nothing gets solved when I hide from You. I admit that I

miss the mark in my relationship with You and I am in need of Your redeeming grace. I lean upon the cross of Christ and wait expectantly for You to speak Your words of forgiveness and promise to me once again. In Jesus' name. Amen.