

“Patched up, Not Perfect”—Moving Forward in Brokenness

“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” — Psalm 34:18

Introduction:

Church folk don’t always like to talk about brokenness. We hide it behind Sunday smiles, scripted prayers, and church clothes. But the truth is—*some of us are walking miracles held together by God’s grace*. We're not perfect—we're patched up.

What if I told you that you don’t have to *wait* until you're whole to move forward? What if I told you God doesn’t need perfection—He just needs your surrender?

Brokenness isn’t the end of your usefulness—it’s often the beginning of your *anointing*.

Let’s discover how God moves with those who are broken—and how you can move forward even while you're still healing.

Point 1: God Is Closest in Our Brokenness

Scripture: Psalm 34:18

“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted...” That means your most painful moments can also be your most intimate moments with God.

We think God shows up when we have it all together—but Scripture says He draws *nearest* when we are *broken*.

Your tears don’t repel God—they attract Him. Your brokenness doesn’t scare Him—it invites His healing presence.

Sometimes, God allows the breaking so we can encounter Him more deeply than we ever would in our strength.

Point 2: God Uses Broken People for Big Assignments

Scripture: Judges 6:11–16

Gideon was hiding in a winepress, full of fear and shame, when the angel of the Lord showed up and called him a *“mighty warrior.”*

God didn’t wait for Gideon to feel strong. He called him *while* he was weak.

What if your insecurities, anxieties, and flaws don’t disqualify you—but are the very stage for God to show His glory?

God isn’t looking for polished. He’s looking for *available*.

Your cracked places become channels for His power.

Point 3: Your Brokenness Can Be a Testimony, Not a Prison

Scripture: Mark 5:25–34

The woman with the issue of blood had been bleeding for 12 years. Doctors couldn't help. Society had pushed her aside. But she pressed through the crowd anyway.

She moved forward in her *brokenness*—and found healing in Jesus.

You don't need to be "fixed" to reach for Him. You just need *faith* to take one more step. What if healing is found not before, but *during* the movement?

Don't wait for full restoration before you step into your future. God meets you *in motion*.

Point 4: Brokenness Multiplies Compassion and Ministry

Scripture: John 21:15–17

Peter was shattered after denying Jesus. But after the resurrection, Jesus didn't shame him—He *recommissioned* him.

Jesus asked, "*Do you love me?*" three times—not to condemn Peter, but to restore him.

Peter's failure didn't end his calling—it refined it. And later, he became the preacher that led thousands to Christ.

God doesn't throw broken people away. He rebuilds them for greater purpose.

Sometimes your most painful chapters become your most powerful ministry.

Conclusion:

If you're waiting until you're "better" to move forward, you might wait forever. God does His best work through broken vessels.

- Your pain has purpose.
- Your cracks are where His light shines through.
- Your wounds are where His glory will rise.

Don't let shame keep you stuck. Don't let failure freeze your future. You are not broken beyond use—you are broken *for* His use.

Devotional Reflection:

"Lord, I give You my broken pieces. I surrender my shame, my scars, my disappointments. Use me even as I heal. Let my story give hope to others. Remind me that Your strength is made perfect in my weakness. I won't wait to be perfect—I'll move forward in Your grace. In Jesus' name, amen."

Study Questions: Moving Forward in Brokenness

1. What broken area in your life have you tried to hide instead of surrender?
2. How has brokenness made you more compassionate or empathetic?
3. What does it mean to move forward before you're fully healed?
4. Who in your life needs to hear that brokenness is not the end of their story?

Challenge:

This week, reflect on one painful experience that God has used—or could use—to bless someone else. Write it out. Pray over it. Then look for an opportunity to share it with someone who needs hope.