

**Devotional Guide**  
**February 22-28, 2026**



# **Broken Inside**

***We are all born broken and dying, but God offers the cure in Jesus.***

Speaker: Mike Kleven, Lead Pastor

*The message explores sin's reversal of God's life-giving design, leaving humanity broken inside—seeking fulfillment in worldly idols like money, sex, or power, resulting in rejection, insecurity, and spiritual death.*

*Drawing from Genesis 1-3, it contrasts Eden's beauty with the curse's toil and dust. Ephesians 2:1-3 depicts our enslavement to fleshly cravings, deserving wrath. Yet Ephesians 2:4-7 reveals God's love, mercy, and grace making us alive in Christ, seated in heavenly realms*

**How to Use This Guide:**

Set aside 10-15 minutes daily. Read the Bible, reflect on the thought, answer questions, pray, and take the action step. Commit to this for growth—journal insights and share with a friend for accountability.

# Day 1: God's Original Design

**Bible Reading:** Genesis 1:26-27

## **Devotional Thought:**

In the sermon, we saw God's beautiful intention: life flowing from Him to us, making us spiritually alive as His image-bearers. With minds to perceive and decide, bodies to steward creation, and freedom from evil, Adam and Eve lived in purpose and love. Sense the harmony—working with joy, connected deeply to God.

But sin disrupted this, as we'll explore later. Today, reflect on your inherent value in this design. You're not an accident; God crafted you for relationship and rule in His world. The sermon's truck illustration reminds us: when life runs backward, damage follows. Yet recalling God's plan sparks hope. In a world of chaos, remember you're made for more—His love sustains you.

## **Reflection Questions:**

1. What does being "in God's image" reveal about your purpose?
2. How have you experienced glimpses of this designed life, like in meaningful work or relationships?
3. Where do modern pressures distort this beauty?
4. How does Psalm 139:14 affirm your worth?
5. What one area of your life needs realignment with God's design?

## **Prayer Prompt:**

Lord, thank You for creating me in Your image. Help me see my value. Forgive me where I've forgotten this. Guide me to live with purpose today. Amen.

## **Action Step:**

Memorize Genesis 1:27 and affirm aloud: "I am made in God's image for His purpose."

# Day 2: The Fall's Devastating Curse

**Bible Reading:** Genesis 3:17-19

**Devotional Thought:**

The sermon highlights disobedience's ripple: rejecting God's authority cut off life, unleashing curses like painful toil, thorns, hard labor, and death. From Eden's ease to sweat and dust, humanity shifted from stewards to strugglers. This isn't just ancient history—it's our story, as sin's effects echo in daily frustrations.

The backward engine analogy fits: seeking life apart from God damages us. False beliefs like "I'm no good" or emotions like anxiety stem from this separation. Yet this awareness humbles us, pointing to our need for a Savior. God's design was beauty; the fall brought brokenness. But as the big idea states, we are all born broken and dying, but God offers the cure in Jesus. Let this truth soften your heart today.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. What specific curses from Genesis 3 do you see in your work or relationships?
2. How does Romans 5:12 connect Adam's sin to your personal experiences?
3. Describe a time when toil or "thorns" felt overwhelming—what did it reveal?
4. Why is acknowledging this brokenness important for healing?
5. How might this perspective change how you face daily challenges?

**Prayer Prompt:**

Father, I confess the fall's impact in my life... Show mercy on my struggles... Draw me closer to Your cure in Jesus. Amen.

**Action Step:**

Journal one "thorn" in your life and pray for God's strength in it.

## Day 3: Spiritual Death & Worldly Enslavement

**Bible Reading:** Ephesians 2:1-3

### **Devotional Thought:**

Paul paints our pre-Christ state: spiritually dead, following Satan's worldly ways, gratifying cravings—money, sex, power. The sermon calls this backward flow, leading to destructive habits, negative emotions, and beliefs like insecurity. We're slaves, not rulers, deserving wrath. The pop quiz hits home: rejection, insecurity, insignificance? These dashboard warnings signal misalignment.

From the sermon: we seek life in idols, but it's a lie. This universal brokenness levels us—all born dying, helpless. Yet it sets the stage for grace. Embrace vulnerability here; God's not surprised by your struggles. His cure awaits.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. What does "dead in transgressions" mean in Ephesians 2:1?
2. How have you followed "ways of this world" or gratified cravings?
3. Share (if comfortable) a false belief or emotion from this enslavement.
4. Why does John 8:34 call sin slavery—what freedoms does it steal?
5. How does recognizing this deepen your need for Jesus?

### **Prayer Prompt:**

God, reveal my enslavements... Forgive my cravings... Free me through Your truth. Amen.

### **Action Step:**

Take the pop quiz honestly—note one feeling and trace its worldly source. Quiz: Do you now or have you ever felt rejected, insecure, and/or insignificant?

# Day 4: God's Great Love and Mercy

**Bible Reading:** Ephesians 2:4-5

## **Devotional Thought:**

Amid brokenness, the "but" in Ephesians shifts everything: God's love and mercy intervene, making us alive in Christ by grace.

The sermon emphasizes this cure—reversing death, restoring flow. No matter your sins, His kindness expresses incomparable riches.

The truck restart illustrates: turn off the old way, start anew in Jesus. For Jesus followers, rediscover your identity; for those not yet Jesus followers, turn to Him. This love isn't earned—it's gifted. Let it wash over your shame or fear today.

## **Reflection Questions:**

1. What stands out about God's love and mercy in Ephesians 2:4-5?
2. How does Lamentations 3:22-23 encourage you in struggles?
3. Describe a time God's grace felt real amid brokenness.
4. Why is being "made alive" transformative?
5. How can you receive this mercy more fully?

## **Prayer Prompt:**

Thank You, God, for Your love... Make me alive in areas of death... By grace, save me anew. Amen.

## **Action Step**

Meditate on Ephesians 2:4-5; thank God for one specific mercy.

# Day 5: Raised and Seated with Christ

**Bible Reading:** Ephesians 2:6-7

## **Devotional Thought:**

God doesn't just revive—He raises and seats us with Christ, showcasing grace's riches. The sermon ties this to restoration: from slaves to heavenly heirs, life's flow unleashed.

Forget old identities; embrace new creation (2 Cor. 5:17). This positions you for victory over rejection or insecurity. Live from this seat—secure, significant in Him. The invitation: embrace the cure, trust Jesus.

## **Reflection Questions:**

1. What does being "seated with Christ" imply for daily life?
2. How does Colossians 3:1 connect to this heavenly reality?
3. Where have you felt raised from a low point?
4. Why showcase grace through kindness?
5. How will this truth combat false beliefs?

## **Prayer Prompt:**

Raise me up, Lord... Seat me in Your presence... Show Your riches in my life. Amen.

## **Action Step:**

Confess one idol and affirm: "I am seated with Christ—secure in His grace."

# Day 6: Embracing the Cure in Jesus

**Bible Reading:** 2 Corinthians 5:17, John 10:10

## **Devotional Thought:**

Wrapping the week, the big idea culminates: we are all born broken and dying, but God offers the cure in Jesus. Steps from the sermon—identify flows, confess causes, trust Him—lead to unleashing love.

As new creations, old brokenness fades; abundant life flows.

Review: from design to fall, death to restoration. Carry this forward—share, pray, live aligned.

## **Reflection Questions:**

1. What does 2 Corinthians 5:17 mean as a new creation?
2. How does John 10:10 promise full life?
3. Reflect on this week's insights—what shifted?
4. Where do you still need the cure?
5. How can you apply this ongoing?

## **Prayer Prompt:**

Jesus, I embrace Your cure... Make me new... Unleash Your love in me and through me. Amen.

## **Action Step:**

Share one takeaway with someone; commit to weekly alignment checks.



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