

## "BUILDING A SERMON FROM A SMALL TEXT"

Luke 4:18-21

I preached Wednesday from Luke 4:18 on "Healing Broken Hearts." We will look at the step-by-step way this sermon was built. We are looking at it specifically as it is a sermon based on a very small text: How do you build a sermon from a small text?

### **I. MOTIVATION**

A. The first thing to see is why I preached on this sermon

1. This didn't come out of my Bible reading – *I was inspired as I read it...*
2. This came out of a desire to regularly preach sermons of deliverance
  - a. Issues that keep God's people bound – affecting their lives
    1. I want to preach truths that set people free:
      - a. *John 8:32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*
    2. I want to preach things that will allow me to pray for them at the altar for supernatural help

B. So in this case, I chose broken hearts as an issue that fits these criteria

1. That leads me logically to a text (Luke 4:18) that I can study

### **II. WORD STUDIES**

A. Examine the passage: Luke 4:19-21

1. Determine if the whole passage is relevant to the subject we want to preach on
2. In this case, NO: It is a list of different things Jesus came to do
  - a. I want to narrow my focus solely on "Heal the broken hearted"
    1. **Decide what to ignore:**
      - a. *Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor;*
      - b. *To proclaim liberty to the captives*   c. *And recovery of sight to the blind,*
      - d. *To set at liberty those who are oppressed;*
    2. **Decide what to include:**
      - a. *"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me,*   b. *Because he has anointed me...*
      - c. *He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,*   d. *to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord*

B. Look up the key words of the verse

1. **Brokenhearted:** *to crush completely, i.e. to shatter: break (in pieces), broken to shivers, bruise.*
2. **Heal:** *to cure (literal or figurative) :- heal, make whole.*
3. **Anointed:** *through the idea of contact; to smear or rub with oil, i.e. (by implication) to consecrate to an office or religious service :- anoint.*

### **III. DECIDE THE DIRECTION OF THE SERMON**

A. Look at what the scripture does tell us about broken hearts, or healing broken hearts

1. We see the fact of broken hearts
  - a. It is a problem – Jesus needs to fix it
  - b. We see a glimpse of what it means: To be broken/crushed/shattered in pieces
2. We see the answer
  - a. The Spirit of the Lord/anointed...b. God's desire: Sent me to heal...
3. But that's all there is: 2 points

B. Decide what is missing: *There is <sup>1</sup> the problem and <sup>2</sup> the cure...*

1. **The effect:** *What does a broken heart do or produce in people?*
2. Search the scriptures: In order to do this, you need to choose the key words...
  - a. Broken b. Spirit c. Heart
    1. *Prov 15:13* *by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.*   2. *Prov 17:22* *but a broken spirit saps a person's strength.*
    3. *Prov 12:25* *Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop: (weighs a person down)*

C. Decide your 3 points

- I. THE REALITY OF BROKEN HEARTS**
- II. THE DAMAGE OF A BROKEN HEART**
- III. HEALING BROKEN HEARTS**

### **III. BUILD YOUR CASE**

A. You have to think!!!

1. Your job is to build a case/convince people of the need/the effect and the answer

2. What is a key word that brokenhearted suggests? **Pain!**
  - a. What kinds of things cause pain in the heart?
    1. Setbacks/disappointments:
      - a. What kinds of things in life are like this?
        1. Divorce of parents
        2. Financial reversals
        3. Broken dreams:
      - b. Are there any Bible examples? Michal...
    2. Rejection: (define it) Someone didn't love us – let it be known
      - a. What kinds of things in life bring rejection?
        1. Abandoned as children: Someone wouldn't raise the child they created
        2. Betrayal by friends/loved ones/spouses
      - b. Any scriptures to illustrate? *Psa 41:9 My best and truest friend, who ate at my table, has even turned against me.*

### 3. Death of loved ones:

3. What does brokenhearted – being connected to pain suggest?
  - a. Pain that doesn't go away; because pain usually does (Illustrate – my broken finger)
4. Define being brokenhearted: no normal healing process
  - a. The events of life have damaged/broken something on the inside
    1. Word study: *V18 brokenhearted: To be crushed/shattered/to break in pieces*
  - b. Broken heart: When that which should be in the past is part of your everyday life
    1. Scripture: *Genesis 37:35*

### B. Point 2/effect: Think

1. You have scriptures that describe the effect
  - a. *Prov 15:13* by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken. b. *Prov 17:22* but a broken spirit saps a person's strength.
    1. What does that suggest? Broken things don't function well & lack of strength
2. Think about different areas of a person's life this will do damage
  - a. **Sorrow:** You have a scripture *Prov 12:25* that describes a lack of joy
  - b. **Despair:** Absence of hope
  - c. **Sickness:** Logical...Heart issues usually produce physical problems
    1. Googling "Broken heart" gives some good info/quotes
  - d. **Relationship problems:** Logical...heart issues produce relationship conflicts/difficulties
3. Bible examples? Michal...her conflict with her husband

### C. Point 3/the answer – healing broken hearts

1. This scripture is about God...speak to people about who God is!
  - a. *Isa 53:3* he has felt sorrow b. *Matt 14:14* he has compassion on hurting people
2. Show from our scripture God's intention/the answer
  - a. He wants to heal broken hearts
  - b. Why can he do this? Because of the cross (try and point people to the cross)
    1. *John 19:34* a broken heart
3. Show that this is supernatural – a miracle of what only God can do
  - a. Spirit/anointed: What is a symbol of the Holy Spirit? Oil!
    1. Scripture where oil brings healing? Good Samaritan/poured in the oil where he was hurting
4. Any other scriptures? *Psalm 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds.*
  - a. *Gen 41:51* Joseph called his 1<sup>st</sup> son Manasseh: "For God has made me forget all my toil and all my father's house."
  1. Manasseh: Forgetting; I'm not dominated by my past - It doesn't hurt anymore!

### D. Find illustrations

1. Real life 2. Illustration books 3. Illustration sites

### E. Assemble it all in a logical format (outline is best)

### F. Preach it

### G. Pray for what you preached about...after the altar call