

"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 ¹ the problem and ² 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? *Psalms 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds.*

a. *Gen 41:51 Joseph called his 1st 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