

**Dear God...**  
*When Love Breaks Your Heart*  
*February 20 & 21, 2010*

Bad things happen to good people

- **Jesus said, “I have told you all this so that you may have peace in Me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”** John chapter 16 verse 33 (825)
- Bad Thinking: If I’m good, nothing bad will happen to me (*what about Job, Jesus, Apostle Paul, & so many others in the Bible...*)
- Bad Thinking: If something bad happens, I must have done something bad (*Again...what about Job, Jesus, Apostle Paul, & so many others in the Bible*)

My troubles bring God no joy

- **God does not enjoy hurting people or causing them sorrow.**  
*Lamentations chapter 3 verse 33 (624)*

God still has a wonderful plan for my life

- **“I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”**  
*Jeremiah chapter 29 verse 11 (596)*

I need to watch my expectations

- Hurting comes with loving...it’s **IMPOSSIBLE** to love without getting hurt!
- God loves us...and was hurt deeply when His Son was killed for us
- God loves us...and gets hurt deeply when we sin, reject Him
- In all of this, God keeps loving...never withdraws, never rejects us
- We need to be like God & keep loving, refuse to become hardened & syndical, refusing to become distant
- **Let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.** 1 John chapter 4 verses 7 & 8 (943)

When hurt, I need to be careful

- Hurt people hurt people
- If I do this, I’ll only feel worse because I’m allowing someone else to cause me to sin
- I need to choose responses that God & I will be proud of
- **We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in His love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God....** 1 John chapter 4 verse 16 (943)

### Allow God to bring good from my hurt

- I'm going through the hurt & pain anyway...why not cooperate with God so He can bring good from it?
- ***We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them.***

*Romans chapter 8 verse 28 (863)*

### Let God comfort me so I can comfort others

- Seeing good come from my hurt & pain gives me encouragement & strength to keep going!
- ***God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.***

*2 Corinthians chapter 1 verses 3 & 4 (882)*

### Next steps

- First, come forward for prayer today after the service
- Share your story, your pain with a counselor, a pastor, and with God (*get it out*)
- Build a godly support system around you...to encourage you, pray for you, move you in the right direction (*because bad days are ahead!*)
- Have godly people around you who regularly remind you of who you are in Christ & of God's good plan for your life
- Study these notes until they become a part of you

Next weekend: How to figure out God's will for my life