



Just Grow Up!

James - A Manual for Maturity

God Heals the Broken

1. Read James 5:13-20. What is said in this passage that sticks out to you? Why?
2. Pastor Rick said that there are three types of brokenness mentioned in this passage, what are they? Which ones have you experienced? What were the circumstances? What does James say our first response to our brokenness should be?
3. What are the four views of healing that Pastor Rick brought out? What is the main idea of each type? Is it always God's will for a person to be healed of all of their brokenness? Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. In this passage, which type of brokenness was Paul experiencing? Did God heal it? Why or why not?
4. Pastor Rick said that there are three results that pain can accomplish in the life of a person, what were they? Read Hebrews 12:4-6. Which result does this speak about? Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-30. Which type does this refer to?
5. Is it possible for you to determine why God is allowing another person to experience pain? What is the correct way to respond to any type of pain you experience in your life?
6. If you know a Christian who has wandered away from the Lord and is living in disobedience to the Lord, what does James say is our responsibility? Read Matthew 7:3-5 and Galatians 6:1. What do these two passages reveal about who is qualified to help disobedient Christians? Who should not attempt to restore another person?

ANSWERS

2. The three types of brokenness are: a. Emotional b. Physical and c. Spiritual. Our first response to any type of brokenness we are experiencing is to go to God in prayer.
3. The four views of healing are: a. The Sensationalist—what they do is phony; b. The Confessionalist—They say it is always God's will to heal you, you just name it and claim it; c. The Rationalist—They say there is really no such thing as illness, it is all in your mind and no prayer will heal it; and d. The Realist—They say God can heal you if it is His will but he may use your illness for a better plan. It is not always God's will for a person to be healed of their brokenness while they are still on this earth. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 Paul had a physical infirmity that he asked God to heal and God said no, because he wanted Paul to learn to trust in God and that Paul's weakness would become a strength because God's power would make up of his infirmity.
4. The three purposes for God allowing sickness and pain into our lives are: a. Sickness for the sake of discipline which is brought out in Hebrews 12:4-6; b. Sickness that leads to the ultimate healing of death for a person who rebels against God as brought out in 1 Corinthians 11:17-30; and c. Sickness that brings God glory through being healed by God.
5. No, it is not possible for us to determine why another person is experiencing pain. There is no way we can tell if God is trying to train the person through their sickness, if it is a punishment for rebellion, or if God is just teaching that person to rely on His strength in their weakness. The correct way to respond to any type of pain in your life is to pray and ask God what He wants you to learn as a result of your pain.
6. James says our responsibility toward a brother or sister who wanders away from God is to try to restore them back to their fellowship with God, but to do it humbly realizing that we are just as susceptible to being disobedient as they are. Matthew 7:3-5 says that a person who himself has issues of disobedience with God is in no position to point out the problems another person has and Galatians 6:1 says that those who are spiritually mature should be the ones to help Christians who are being disobedient to God. A spiritually immature person who cannot control their own actions should not be the person to restore someone who has fallen away from the Lord.