

AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Topic: Finding Wholeness in a broken World
Text: 2 Corinthians 4:6-18

Date: Wednesday, Sept 18, 2024
Facilitator: Pastor Yewande Efodili

Objective: Explore how we can find peace, healing, and completeness in a world that often feels broken and chaotic.

Introduction: The world is broken, and we don't need to look far to see it. In the news, in our relationships, and even within ourselves, we feel the weight of a fractured creation. In Genesis, we read how God created the world and called it "good" (Genesis 1:31). But sin entered the picture through disobedience, bringing brokenness into the perfect harmony God intended.

Brokenness takes many forms—violence, pain, loss, confusion, and division. But in the midst of this fractured reality, the longing for wholeness is embedded deep within our hearts. Each of us carries that desire, the hope to be healed, made complete, and restored.

Biblically, **wholeness is a state of being where the body, soul, and spirit are healthy, aligned, and working together harmoniously** 3 John 2. It also means that a person's purpose is aligned with God's purpose. Jeremiah 29:11

1. Understanding Brokenness: *What is it?*

Scripture: Romans 8:22-23

"We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies."

This passage acknowledges the reality of suffering and brokenness in the world. This groaning is not just the cry of a broken world; it is the cry of broken hearts. We live in a fallen world where suffering and division are inevitable. Yet, amidst this pain, we are not left without hope. 1 Peter 5:10

- What are various ways in which brokenness manifests in our lives and the world around us? (e.g., personal loss, societal issues, health problems).

2. Finding Hope in God's Promises

Scripture: Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

- God's promises offer hope even when our circumstances are challenging. How can this promise provide comfort and a sense of direction?

Scripture: Isaiah 41:10

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

- How does God's presence and support help us navigate and find peace in our struggles? Share personal experiences where you felt God's strength in difficult times.

3. Embracing Healing Through Christ

Scripture: Matthew 11:28

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

- Jesus offers rest and healing for those who are burdened. How can we find rest and renewal in Christ amidst our daily struggles? Ps. 105:4-5 (NLT) **"Search for the Lord and for His strength; continually seek him"**.

Scripture: 1 Peter 2:24

"He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed."

- Reflecting on the concept of spiritual healing through Christ's sacrifice; How does understanding this healing impact our sense of wholeness and reconciliation? It gives us hope and resilience, Freedom from shame and guilt, we are able to form a more meaningful and deeper relationship with others, thus able to serve others and advance God's kingdom. Isa.61:1-3

4. Living Out Wholeness: True wholeness can only be found in Christ. Wholeness is not about having a life free of pain or trouble; it is about being made complete in Christ, despite the brokenness around us.

Scripture: Philippians 4:6-7

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

- *What are the practical ways to experience God's peace and wholeness in our lives? How can prayer and gratitude shift our perspective and bring wholeness?*
“Anxiety narrows our perspective, allowing us to see only what is in front of us but Prayer widens our perspective, it helps us to see that God is at work”.

Scripture: Colossians 3:15

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.”

- How does allowing Christ's peace to rule in our hearts affects our interactions with others and our personal well-being? How can being part of a community contribute to our sense of wholeness?

5. Encouragement for the Journey - GRACE

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:9

“But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.”

What is the role of grace in our weaknesses and brokenness? How can embracing our limitations lead to a deeper experience of God's strength? Jesus is the ultimate expression of grace John 1:14; Grace is not simply about forgiveness; it is about transformation and empowerment, allowing us to find hope, strength, and renewal in God, especially when we are weak or broken. Through grace, our imperfections become the stage for God's power and love to shine.

Scripture: Revelation 21:4

“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

- Looking forward to the ultimate wholeness promised in the new heaven and new earth in the above scripture. How does this future hope influence our current struggles and pursuit of wholeness?

Conclusion

Key point of our study tonight is that while we live in a broken world, God offers hope, healing, and a path to wholeness through Christ.

Thank God for His promises, healing, and peace. Ask God for His help in finding wholeness in our daily lives and trusting in His future plans; Lord, heal our emotional wounds and mend our broken hearts, restore our mental clarity and clear our troubled mind in Jesus name. Free us from anxiety, depression and every weight that binds us; help us to regain emotional balance, stability of heart and mental focus in Jesus name.