



Sermon Series: Dangerous Prayers

Message Title: BREAK Me!

Key Scripture: **James 1:2-4**

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, **3** because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. **4** Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”

READ: James 1:2-4; Psalm 139; Galatians 2:20; Genesis 50:15-20

The focus of **BREAK ME** prayers IS NOT on being destroyed or torn apart by GOD for our brokenness & sinfulness, but rather it's a petition for GOD to reveal who **HE** knit us together in our mother's wombs to BE. This is not about DOING we are not Human-doings, we are Human-BEINGS. This Dangerous Prayer trusts Him to keep His word & to **break off of us** everything that is not like HIM. This is not about salvation because **BREAK ME** prayers are made by those who already BELONG TO HIM.

SO HOW does this **BREAK ME** process actually happen?

Through God's transformational love & the power of the Holy Spirit! Our Heavenly Father always has our best interests at heart. For God to use us greatly, we must to be emptied of S-E-L-F & filled with HIM! God longs to break us of our pride, our selfishness, & our self-sufficiency, lest we like satan, believe we are due the glory & fall from grace. Lord, help us!

If I want to be used by God for **His glory**, if I want to experience His **Abundant Life**, then there was no way around it, I have to surrender to God. God will need to **BREAK ME**.”

“It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until he has hurt him deeply.” God actually rises up storms of conflict in relationships at times in order to accomplish that deeper work in our character. We cannot love our enemies in our own strength. This is graduate-level grace. Are you willing to enter this school? Are you willing to take the test? If you pass, you can expect to be elevated to a new level in the Kingdom. For He brings us through these tests as preparation for greater use in the Kingdom. You must pass the test first. **—A.W. TOZER—**

James encourages Jesus Followers going through this refining process (**James 1:2-4**) to **embrace the joy found in Jesus** as He leads us through the tests & trials of our faith. James does this by reminding them of God's promised result, **maturity & completeness!**

Joseph too understood the power of God to bring blessing from the mistreatment and sin (**Genesis 50:19-20**) **19** But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? **20** As for you, **you meant evil**

against me, but **God meant it for good (GOD IS A REDEEMER!)**, to **bring it about that many people should be kept alive**, as they are today. **21** So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them..

Dangerous Prayers change eternity, rescue lost souls, shake hell, scare demons, alter atmospheres, & shine the light of heaven into the darkness around us.

- * Jesus **promised** us in **John 16:33** that in this life we would face trouble.
- * Jesus **warned** us if we faithfully serve Him, we will face persecution just like He did (**John 15:20**).
- * Jesus **assures** us well will face trials and opposition, BUT in the midst of all this He **invites** us to **respond with grace** and to **PRAY for those who persecute us!**

THOUGHT PROVOKING QUESTIONS

- 1.** Scripture shows again & again how hard times can make us stronger & bring us closer to God (see **James 1** & **Genesis 50**). Describe a time then you experienced something difficult and yet recognized God's goodness was with you in the trial.
- 2.** Some might say that inviting God to **BREAK THEM** is the most scary of the three DANGEROUS PRAYERS. If you had the courage to ask God to BREAK YOU, what are you afraid He might do? If your fears actually came to pass, how do you think God would show Himself to you?
- 3.** What do you know about the character & heart of God? Do your fears skew your view of God or do they accurately respond to His true character?
- 4.** Who do you know that has experienced deep pain & is stronger or more mature spiritually on the other side of the brokenness? How is God using them now? Do you know someone who has gone through deep pain but has experienced the opposite experience? How can you love & serve them? Let's pray for them to experience the healing power of Jesus?
- 4.** If you took time to invite God to BREAK YOU, what do you think He'd want to remove from your life first? Would he BREAK YOU of selfishness? Pride? Of self-sufficiency? Or something else? Let's talk about it and explain why you chose what you did.

PRAYER LIST:

- 1.** Who are 5 people you have thought of throughout this week that you can commit to praying for over the next 5 days?
- 2.** Pray the Lord shows you 2 things in your life He wants to reveal to you and break off from you. For accountability, share these with a spouse or a friend. Ask them to pray for you about these areas this week. At the end of the week share with them what God has shown you and is doing in you.