

Because of You – Part 3

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We say “How can I help anybody? I have trouble managing my own life. How can God ever use me?” Michelle and I felt this way when we planted this church, and we still do.

The illusion is that we won't be weak forever. Someday, if God was going to use us, we couldn't be weak. That's a deception. We thought if God would do anything in our life that mattered, we would have to be strong.

Your brokenness is a qualifier, not a disqualifier.

II Corinthians 12:9-10 - God's power and strength are made perfect in my weakness. For when I am weak, only then, can I be strong through Him.

I Corinthians 1:26-31 - Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish (*Morons*) things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak (*Comatose*) things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things (*ignoble*) of this world and the despised (*least esteemed*) things — and the things that are not (*invisible*) — to bring to nothing the things that are, so that no one may ever have cause to take credit in God's presence. It is because of Him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God — that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore, as it is written: "Let him who takes credit, take credit because of Him."

The deception - self-sufficiency requires pride and faith in me

- We think we need to be intelligent, capable, educated, influential, prominent, and successful for God to use us. There's nothing with these things in and of themselves, until we connect them with God using us.
- God will not share the credit with us.
- Paul was all of these things, but he counted them as dung so that he might win Christ – Philippians 3:8
- It is in our weakness that Christ is revealed.

Brokenness requires dependence and faith in God

- God said He will choose the foolish – weak – ignoble – lowly – despised – invisible

The damaged door never stops feeling damaged

- You cannot get through this door of weakness without God.
- On the other side of this door we find His nobility of birth, His favor, His wisdom & His power.

Experiencing God's love is the singular answer to our brokenness.

Ephesians 3:19 - That you may really come to know, practically, by experiencing for yourselves the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge, without experience; this results in you being filled, through you all your being with the very fullness of God, that you would have the richest measure of divine presence and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself!

What is impossible to a person fully flooded with God Himself?

Ephesians 3:20 - Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly and abundantly, infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes or dreams according to the power (*Of His Love*) that works in us!

He is able – according to His love at work within us!

Experience His love – experience His unlimited power

- **God is calling us to experience His love.**
- **God calls us out to “walk upon the waters of impossible”.**
- **You were made to make a difference in your life. You were created to live a “Because of You” life.**
- **Nothing in your past or present disqualifies you.**