

# ***Broken: A Place for the Broken***

## *Various Texts*

### ***What is the Church?***

- The Church is a community bound together by our shared beliefs about who Jesus is
  - And, by extension, who we are
    - We are people who should acknowledge our failings and brokenness so that we can find healing in Jesus
- The Church is a place where broken people can find healing
  - It is a hospital for sinners
  - Not a museum for saints
- It is NOT supposed to be a place where we hide from each other
  - We should be able to be authentic with one another
    - Not because we are perfect
    - But because we *know* the love, mercy, and grace of God
    - And we show those things to one another (John 13:34-35; 1 Pet. 4:8)

### ***How Are We Doing?***

- Are we the kind of Church that hides from one another?
  - Do we come on Sunday morning pretending everything is ok when it is not?
  - If so, why do we do that?
    - Do we fear judgement? (1 John 4:16-21)
- Do we welcome the wounded?
  - If someone were to walk through our doors on a Sunday morning and not know how to hide their sins and struggles, would they feel wanted and welcomed?
  - Would we even invite them?

### ***The Good News***

- We as the Church have the words of Life because we have Jesus (John 6:68)
- The heart of the Gospel is that God meets us where we are and loves us fiercely
  - And then calls those who have experienced His love, mercy, and forgiveness to be ambassadors of Jesus to the world
  - By doing the same things Jesus did for us; meeting others where they are at and loving them fiercely (2 Cor. 5:16-20)

### ***So What?***

- Are we a community that lives out the Gospel to one another?
  - Showing God's grace, mercy, and love
- Are we proclaiming the Gospel to the broken around us?
  - Meeting them where they are at and loving them fiercely with Christ' love

**Meditation Verse:** *1 Peter 4:8*